

SUPERBOY

JULY

No. 130

**Ten
Cents**



Adventure COMICS

A 52 PAGE MAGAZINE

*Another
EXCITING STORY OF
SUPERMAN
WHEN HE WAS
A BOY!*



SUPERBOY

The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN
WHEN HE WAS A BOY!

HOW GOOD A SALESMAN ARE YOU?
COULD YOU SELL DIRT AT A
THOUSAND DOLLARS A POUND?
COULD YOU SELL SALT WATER
TO A THIRSTY CASTAWAY ON A
RAFT?

IMPOSSIBLE, YOU SAY? THEN HOLD
EVERYTHING TILL YOU WATCH THE
MIRACLE SALES MADE BY THAT
WONDER HUCKSTER...

**"SUPERBOY-
SUPER-SALESMAN!"**

PARDON ME,
BUT COULD I SELL
YOU ANYTHING
TODAY?

HOBO JUNGLE



WHEN A MODERN AMUSEMENT PARK OPENS, IT'S WELCOME NEWS TO ALL YOUNGSTERS.

BECAUSE CLARK KENT IS IN REALITY **SUPERBOY**, HIS X-RAY VISION MAKES AN APPALLING DISCOVERY!

COME ON, CLARK! HOW ABOUT A RIDE ON THE SCENIC RAILWAY?

NOT NOW! I'VE GOT A JOB SELLING NEWSPAPERS AFTER SCHOOL AND I'VE GOT TO GET GOING!

THESE NEW RIDES ARE ALL FAULTY! AND THAT FERRIS WHEEL IS ABOUT TO COLLAPSE!

THIS IS CERTAINLY A JOB FOR **SUPERBOY**!

ARROW-SWIFT, **SUPERBOY** STREAKS TO THE DANGER SPOT...

GET EVERYBODY OFF THE OTHER RIDES AT ONCE! I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS!

LOOK! IT'S COLLAPSING! THE CHILDREN WILL BE KILLED!

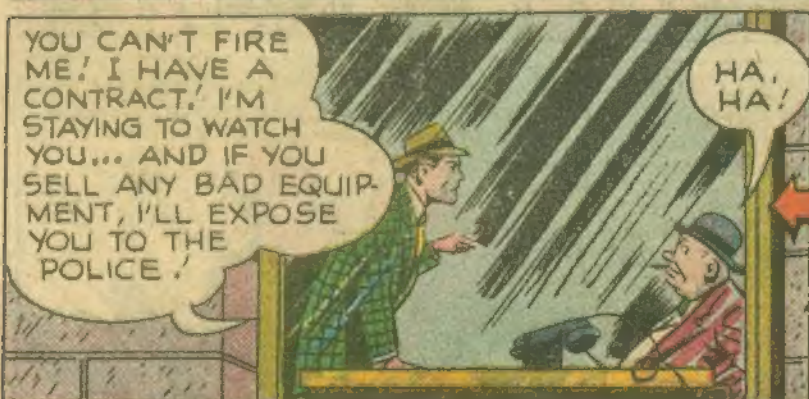
HELP! WE'RE FALLING!

I'LL HOLD IT UP UNTIL YOU ALL GET OFF!

IT'S **SUPERBOY**! WE'RE SAVED!

AFTERWARD, THE OUTRAGED AMUSEMENT PARK OWNER MAKES A STATEMENT...

I'VE CLOSED THE PARK AND CALLED THE COMPANY THAT SOLD ME THAT DAMAGED WHEEL! HERE COMES THEIR SALESMAN, HERBERT BINNS!



SOON, AT A CIRCUS SHOWING IN A NEARBY TOWN...

LUCKILY I REMEMBERED ALL THE CIRCUS ACTS I SAW THE OTHER DAY!

UNDER THE BIG TENT, THE CROWD APPLAUDS A THRILLING WILD-ANIMAL ACT!

PRESENTING—INUIT THE ESKIMO, AND HIS TRAINED POLAR BEARS!

AFTER THE PERFORMANCE...

WOULD YOU BUY SOMETHING THAT'D KEEP YOUR BEARS COOL INSTEAD OF SUFFERING FROM THE HEAT?

SURE! IT'S HARD TO GET ENOUGH ICE FOR THEM WHEN WE'RE TRAVELING!

LATER, AFTER SECURING PARTS FROM A REFRIGERATION SUPPLY COMPANY...

THESE OUGHT TO DO THE JOB! AND WE'LL ONLY CHARGE HIM THE COST OF THESE PARTS!

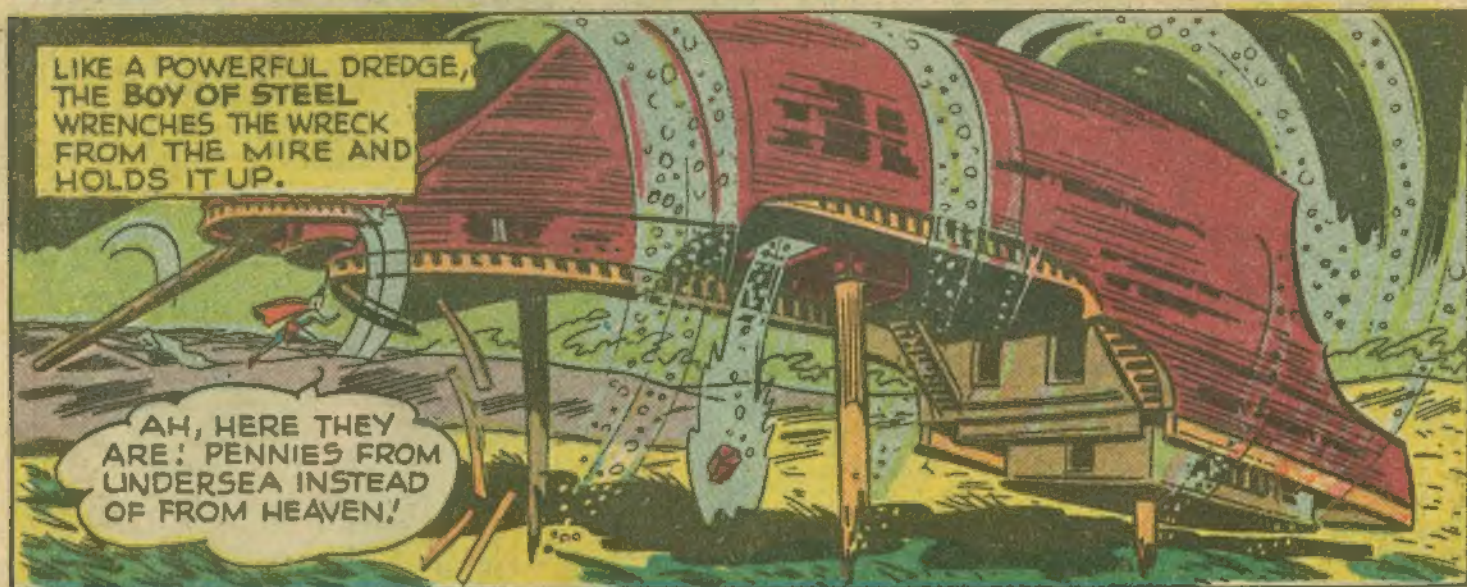
THEN, INCREDIBLY, THE SCATTERED PIECES ARE ASSEMBLED AT TYPHOON SPEED!

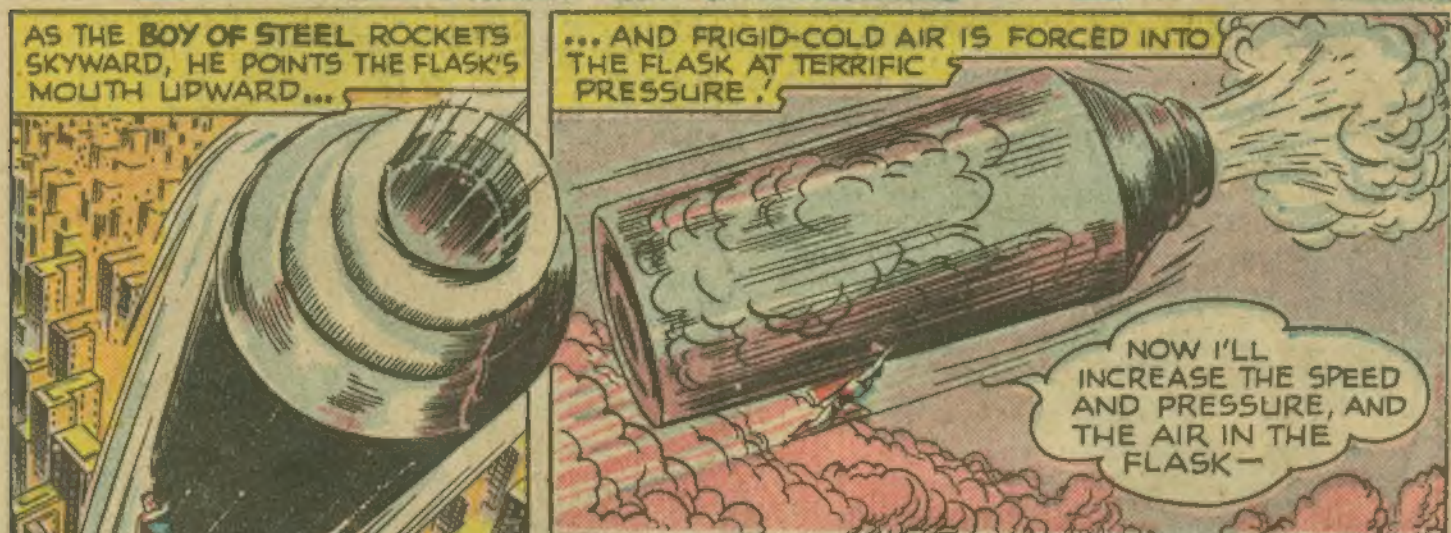
AND THE FINISHED PRODUCT IS READY FOR MARKETING!

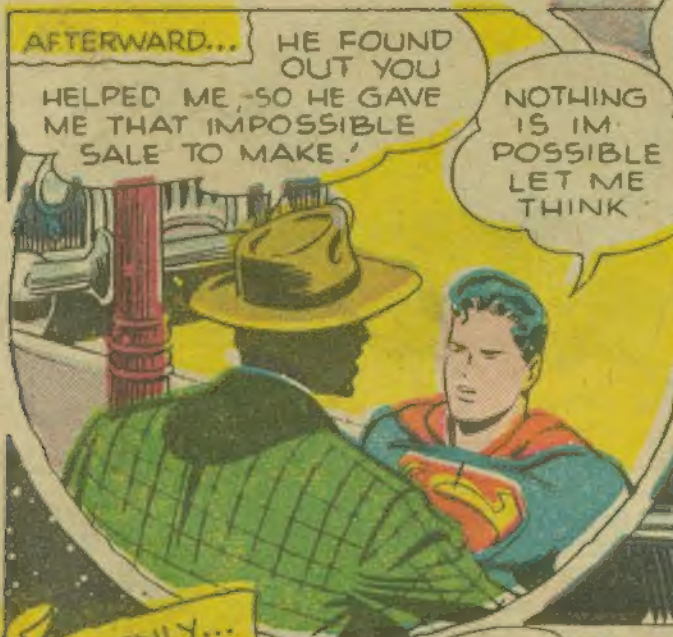
A REFRIGERATOR ON WHEELS!

AND I KNOW THE ESKIMO WHO'LL BUY IT!









ABRUPTLY, CROWL IS MADE A PROSPECTIVE CUSTOMER!

LET ME DEMONSTRATE THESE RIDES FOR YOU, MR. CROWL! MAYBE YOU'LL BUY THEM THEN!

BUT I DON'T WANT ANY DEMONSTRATION!

SEE WHAT A FINE SCENIC RAILWAY IT IS!

LISTEN! THE SUPPORTS ARE GIVING WAY UNDER THE TRACKS!



SNAP!



WE'LL BE KILLED!

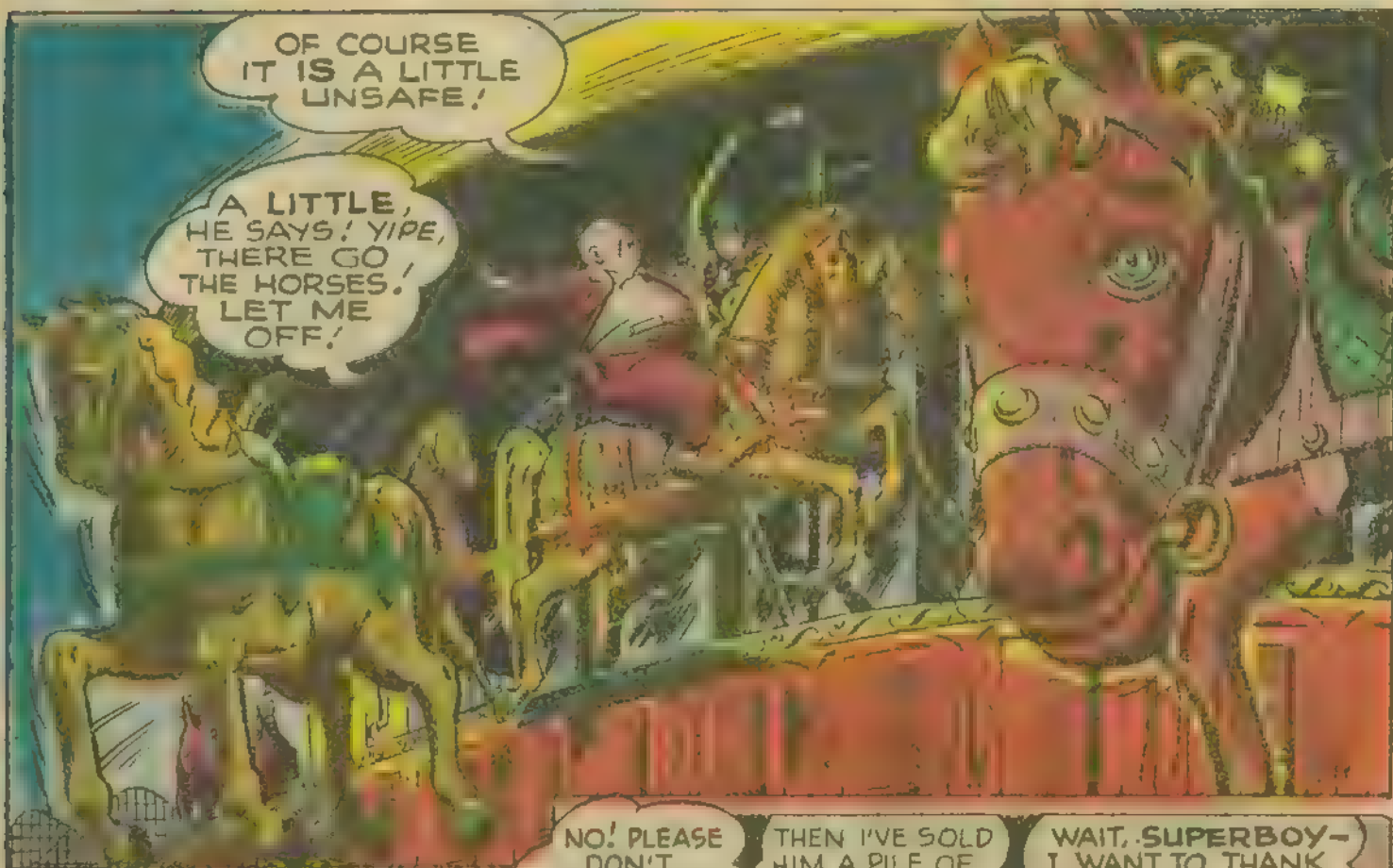
THERE IS NO DANGER AS LONG AS I'M HERE— BUT HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT!

LET ME OUT OF HERE!

SURE THING! THE CUSTOMER'S ALWAYS RIGHT!

HOW ABOUT THIS MERRY-GO-ROUND? IT'S A WONDERFUL BUY!





OF COURSE IT IS A LITTLE UNSAFE!

A LITTLE, HE SAYS! YIPE, THERE GO THE HORSES! LET ME OFF!



THEN HOW ABOUT THIS ROCKET-RIDE? IT'S A BARGAIN, TOO— EVEN THOUGH ITS GIRDERS SEEM RICKETY! NEXT, WE'LL TRY THE SHOOT-THE-CHUTES!

NO! PLEASE DON'T DEMONSTRATE ANY MORE! I'LL BUY!

THEN I'VE SOLD HIM A PILE OF "JUNK" FOR A MILLION DOLLARS! THE PARK-OWNERS GET THEIR MONEY BACK, I KEEP MY JOB, AND CROWL'S LEARNED HIS LESSON!

WAIT, SUPERBOY— I WANT TO THANK YOU— WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

I'VE GOT A SELLING JOB OF MY OWN TO TAKE CARE OF, AND I'M A LITTLE LATE ALREADY!

LATER...

PAPER, SIR? PAPER?

NOPE!

BOY, SOME SALESMAN! I'LL BET HE COULDN'T SELL A DOLLAR BILL FOR A NICKEL!

"U.S. ROYAL"

WITH HIS
JET-PROPELLED BIKE



"ROUNDING UP
THE RUSTLERS"



WHILE
VACATIONING
OUT WEST,
DEPUTY U.S.
ROYAL AND
THE BOYS OF
THE ELM CITY
BIKE CLUB
ARE ENJOYING
THE SIGHTS,
WHEN
SUDDENLY...

SAY, ROYAL,
WHO'S KICKING UP
ALL THAT DUST
DOWN THERE IN
THE VALLEY?

RUSTLERS! AND
THE POSSE'S
NOT FAR BEHIND!



AND AS ROYAL WATCHES THE CHASE THROUGH
HIS GLASSES, HE SEES...

GOOD! THE
POSSE CAN'T
FIGURE WHICH
WAY WE WENT!

WELL, KEEP RIDIN'...
WE AIN'T SAFE TILL
WE GET THROUGH THE
GORGE UP AHEAD...



FELLAS, YOU TWO BIKE DOWN AND
TELL THE POSSE TO HEAD FOR THE
GORGE...I'LL HAVE A NICE SURPRISE
THERE WAITING FOR THEM.



NOW IF I CAN JUST
GET TO THE TOP
OF THAT GORGE
BEFORE THOSE
CATTLE-THIEVES
GET TO THE
BOTTOM!



I MADE IT! THESE
ROCKS WILL FORCE THEM
TO TURN BACK...RIGHT
INTO THE HANDS OF
THE POSSE!



BOYS, LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE
PUT AN END TO THIS RUSTLIN'
RACKET...THAT WAS MIGHTY
FAST WORK ON YOUR PART!

YOU ARE AN MIGHTY
FAST BIKING...
THANKS TO OUR U.S.
ROYAL BIKE TIRES.



FELLAS, SPEED AND SAFETY ARE REALLY
"BUILT INTO" U.S. ROYAL BIKE TIRES--
WITH THEIR SPECIAL BUILT-IN
SKID CHAIN.



"TAKE MY TIP ON BIKE TIRES--
TAKE THE TIRE WITH THE BUILT-IN
SKID CHAIN"...SAYS U.S. ROYAL



IF YOU WANT TO BE SURE OF FIRM FOOTING...
SAFE, QUICK STOPS...MAXIMUM MILEAGE...
PERFECT CONTROL--BE SURE TO GET U.S.
ROYAL BIKE TIRES. THAT SPECIAL BUILT-
IN SKID CHAIN MAKES THEM TOPS IN TIRES.

U.S. BIKE TIRES

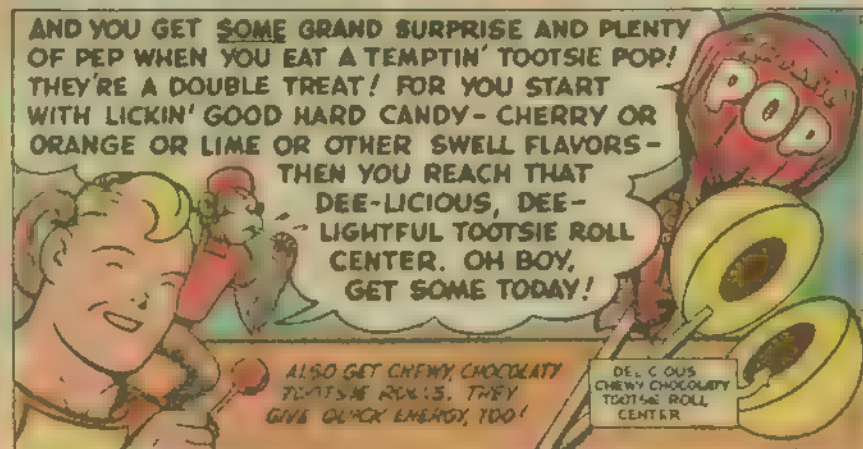
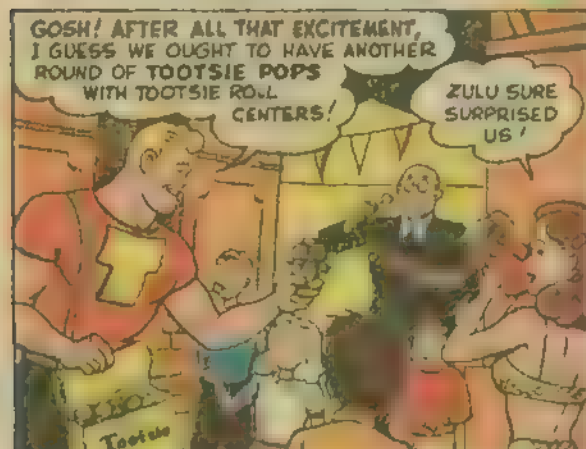
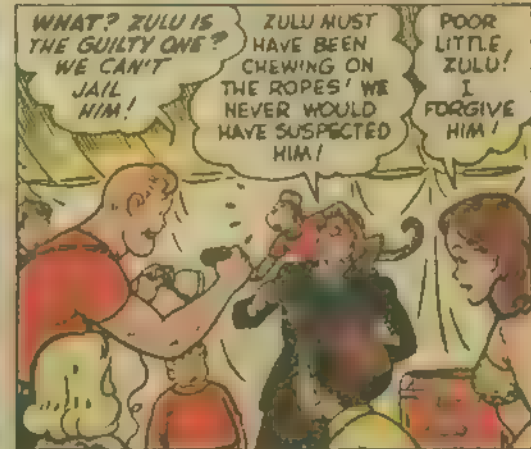
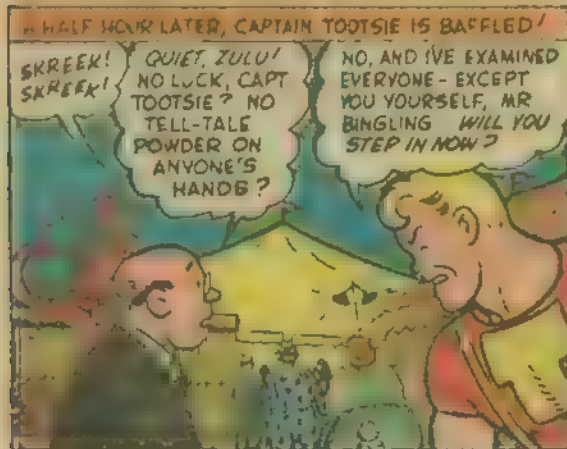
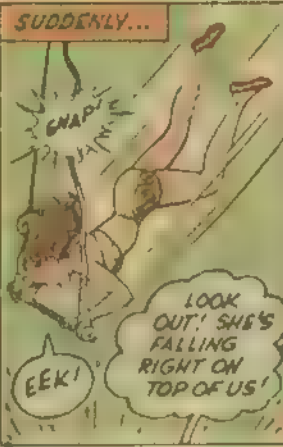
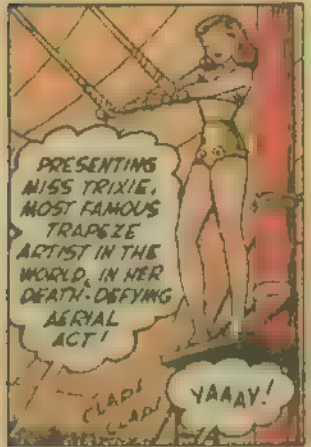
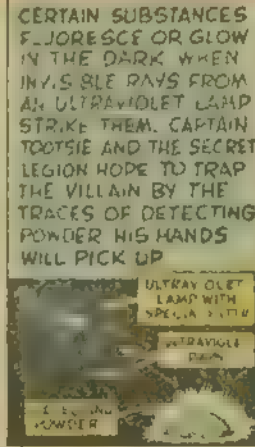
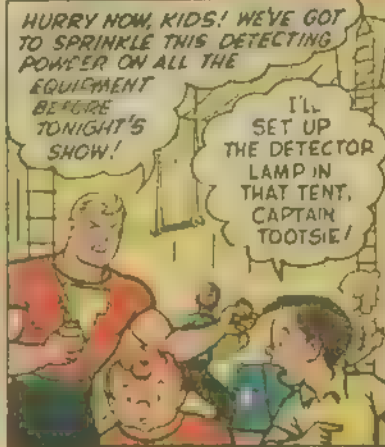
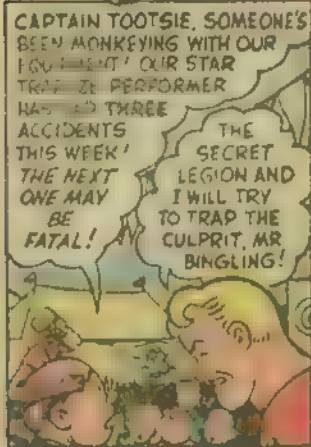
Americas Fastest Selling Tires



UNITED STATES RUBBER COMPANY
Serving Through Science

TOOTSIE THE CIRCUS CULPRIT

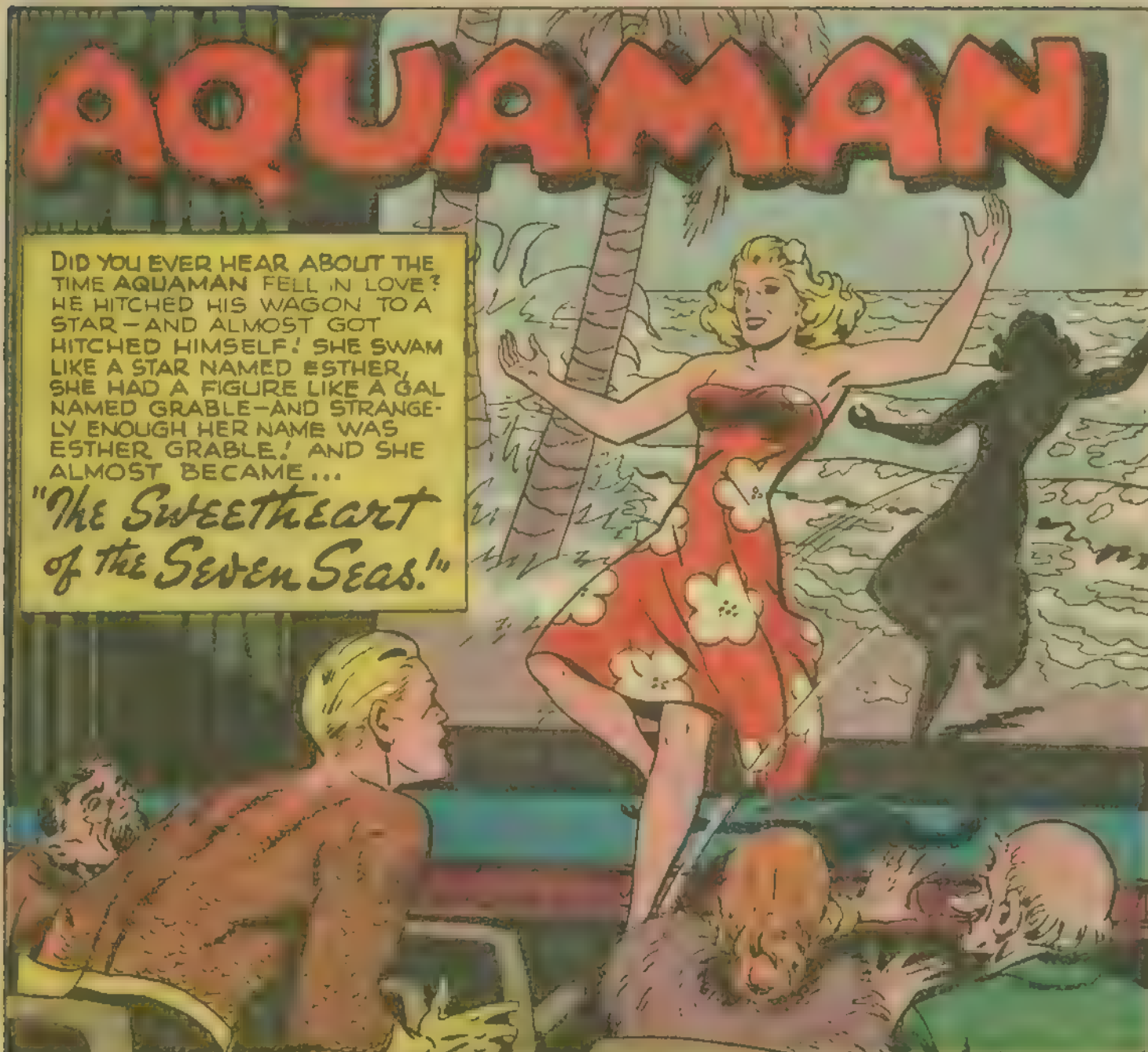
BY C.C. BECA



AQUAMAN

DID YOU EVER HEAR ABOUT THE TIME AQUAMAN FELL IN LOVE? HE HITCHED HIS WAGON TO A STAR—AND ALMOST GOT HITCHED HIMSELF! SHE SWAM LIKE A STAR NAMED ESTHER, SHE HAD A FIGURE LIKE A GAL NAMED GRABLE—AND STRANGELY ENOUGH HER NAME WAS ESTHER GRABLE! AND SHE ALMOST BECAME...

"The Sweetheart of the Seven Seas!"



IT ISN'T OFTEN THAT AQUAMAN, SOVEREIGN OF THE SEVEN SEAS, FINDS HIMSELF HIGH AND DRY LIKE THIS, BUT...

SEATS UP FRONT ONLY, SIR! THE PICTURE IS JUST STARTING...

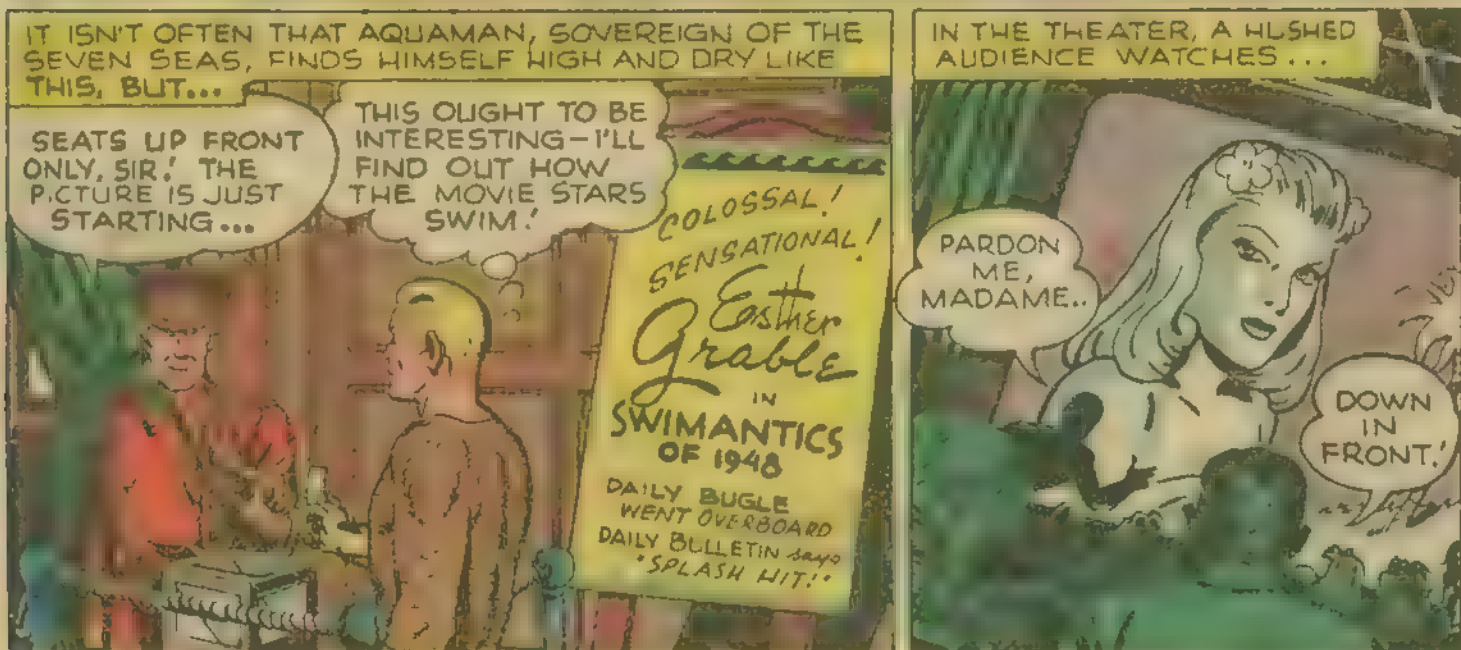
THIS OUGHT TO BE INTERESTING—I'LL FIND OUT HOW THE MOVIE STARS SWIM!

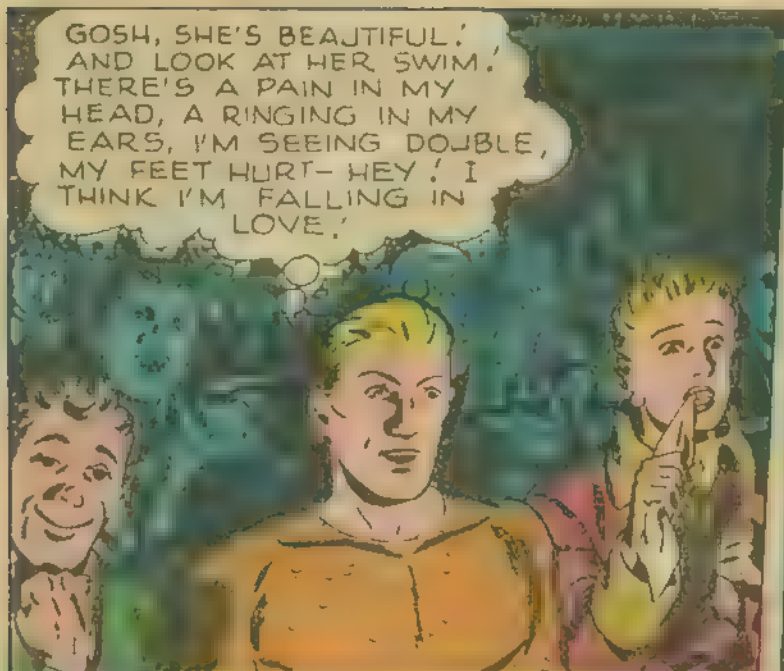
COLOSSAL!
SENSATIONAL!
Esther Grable
IN
SWIMANTICS
OF 1948
DAILY BUGLE
WENT OVERBOARD
DAILY BULLETIN says
"SPLASH HIT!"

IN THE THEATER, A FLESHED AUDIENCE WATCHES...

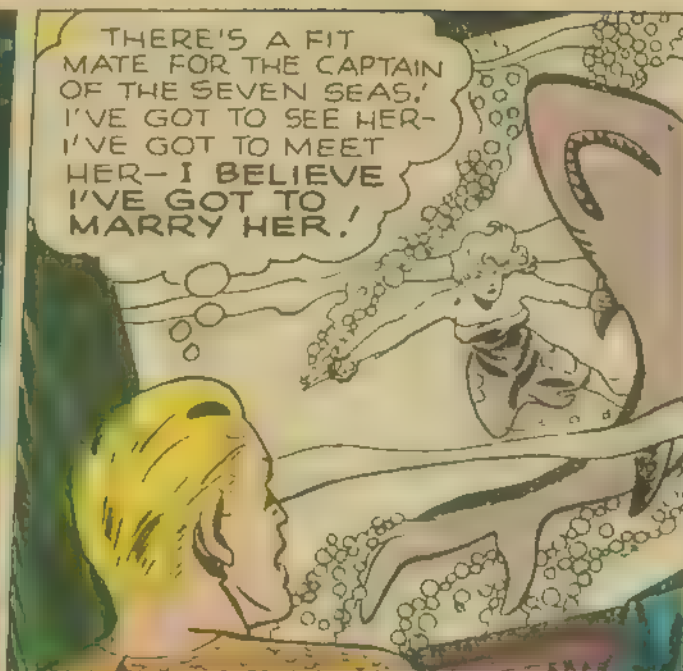
PARDON ME, MADAME...

DOWN IN FRONT!

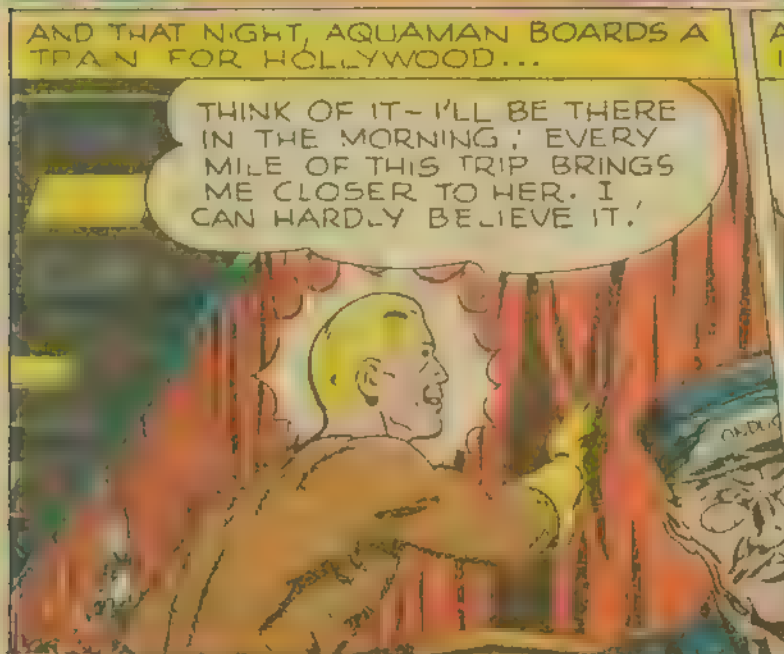




GOSH, SHE'S BEAUTIFUL!
AND LOOK AT HER SWIM!
THERE'S A PAIN IN MY
HEAD, A RINGING IN MY
EARS, I'M SEEING DOUBLE,
MY FEET HURT- HEY! I
THINK I'M FALLING IN
LOVE!

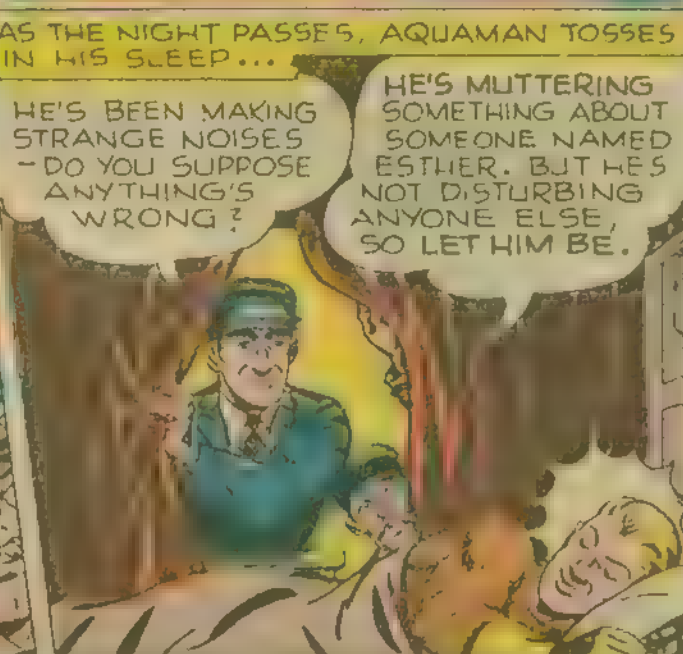


THERE'S A FIT
MATE FOR THE CAPTAIN
OF THE SEVEN SEAS!
I'VE GOT TO SEE HER-
I'VE GOT TO MEET
HER-I BELIEVE
I'VE GOT TO
MARRY HER!



AND THAT NIGHT, AQUAMAN BOARDS A
TRAIN FOR HOLLYWOOD...

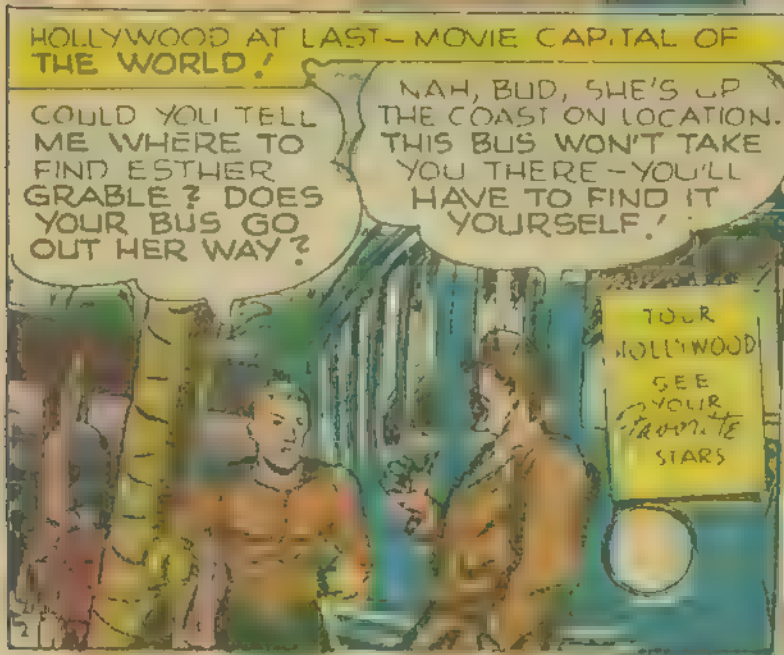
THINK OF IT- I'LL BE THERE
IN THE MORNING! EVERY
MILE OF THIS TRIP BRINGS
ME CLOSER TO HER. I
CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT!



AS THE NIGHT PASSES, AQUAMAN TOSSES
IN HIS SLEEP...

HE'S BEEN MAKING
STRANGE NOISES
-DO YOU SUPPOSE
ANYTHING'S
WRONG?

HE'S MUTTERING
SOMETHING ABOUT
SOMEONE NAMED
ESTHER. BUT HE'S
NOT DISTURBING
ANYONE ELSE,
SO LET HIM BE.

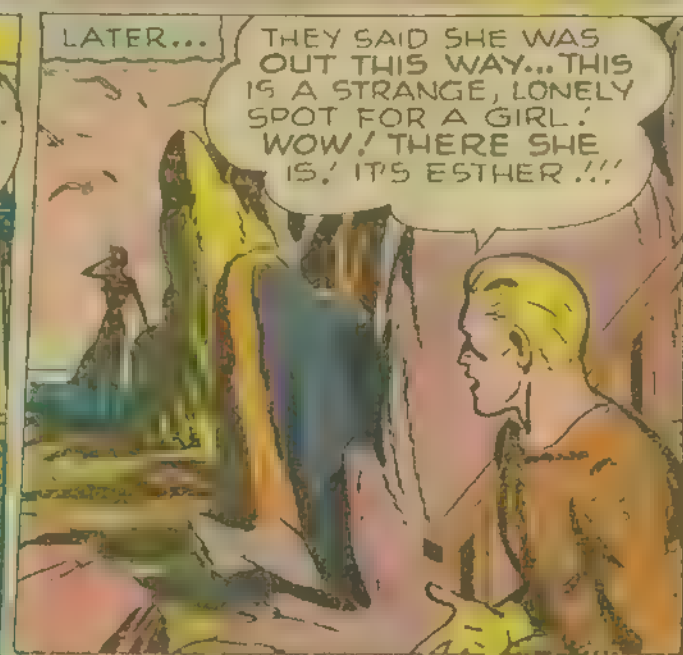


HOLLYWOOD AT LAST- MOVIE CAPITAL OF
THE WORLD!

COULD YOU TELL
ME WHERE TO
FIND ESTHER
GRABLE? DOES
YOUR BUS GO
OUT HER WAY?

NAH, BUD, SHE'S UP
THE COAST ON LOCATION.
THIS BUS WON'T TAKE
YOU THERE- YOU'LL
HAVE TO FIND IT
YOURSELF!

TOUR
HOLLYWOOD
SEE
YOUR
FAVORITE
STARS



LATER...

THEY SAID SHE WAS
OUT THIS WAY... THIS
IS A STRANGE, LONELY
SPOT FOR A GIRL!
WOW! THERE SHE
IS! IT'S ESTHER!!!

AND THEN THE UNBELIEVABLE HAPPENS!

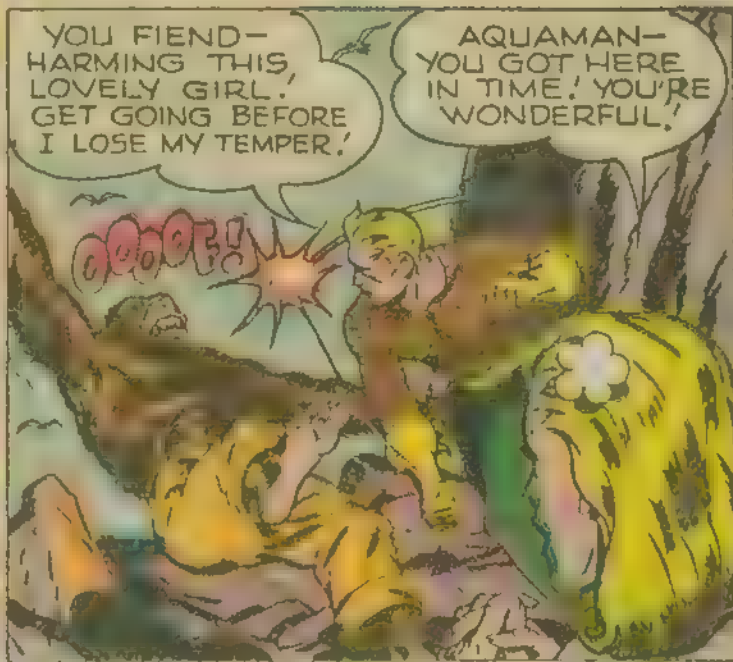
HELP, AQUAMAN—
HELP!
HELP!

SHE CALLS
OUT TO ME—
SHE KNOWS
ME!



YOU FIEND—
HARMING THIS
LOVELY GIRL!
GET GOING BEFORE
I LOSE MY TEMPER!

AQUAMAN—
YOU GOT HERE
IN TIME! YOU'RE
WONDERFUL!



THE MONSTER FLEES—AND AQUAMAN FINDS
HIMSELF ALONE WITH THE GIRL OF HIS
DREAMS!

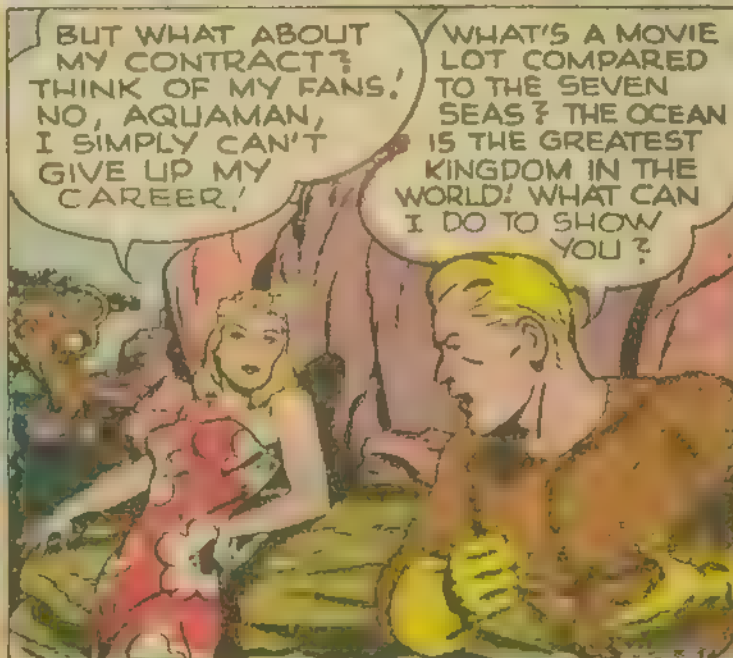
MY STUDIO WILL BE GLAD
TO REWARD YOU, AQUAMAN—
AND I'LL SEND YOU A PICTURE
OF MYSELF WITH A
SPECIAL AUTOGRAPH!

I DON'T
WANT ANY
REWARD—
I JUST
WANT YOU
TO BE MY
WIFE!



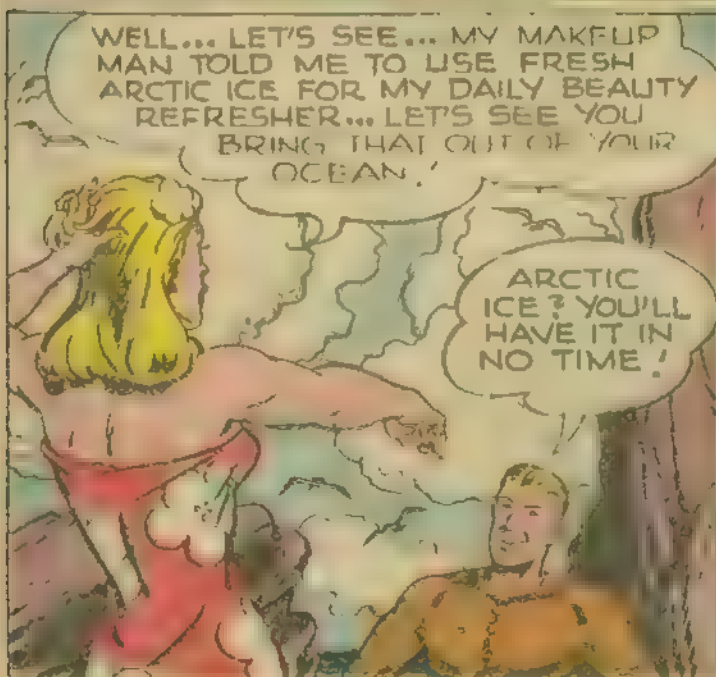
BUT WHAT ABOUT
MY CONTRACT?
THINK OF MY FANS!
NO, AQUAMAN,
I SIMPLY CAN'T
GIVE UP MY
CAREER!

WHAT'S A MOVIE
LOT COMPARED
TO THE SEVEN
SEAS? THE OCEAN
IS THE GREATEST
KINGDOM IN THE
WORLD! WHAT CAN
I DO TO SHOW
YOU?



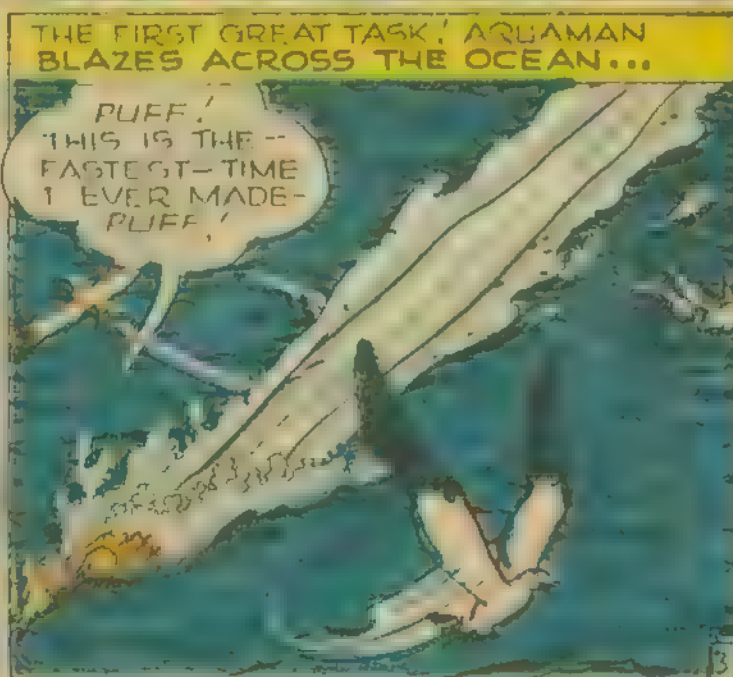
WELL... LET'S SEE... MY MAKEUP
MAN TOLD ME TO USE FRESH
ARCTIC ICE FOR MY DAILY BEAUTY
REFRESHER... LET'S SEE YOU
BRING THAT OUT OF YOUR
OCEAN!

ARCTIC
ICE? YOU'LL
HAVE IT IN
NO TIME!



THE FIRST GREAT TASK! AQUAMAN
BLAZES ACROSS THE OCEAN...

PUFF!
THIS IS THE—
FASTEST—TIME
I EVER MADE—
PUFF!



WITH INCREDIBLE SPEED, HE FINDS AN ICEBERG...

IT'S ABOUT TIME THESE ICEBERGS WERE PUT TO SOME GOOD USE!

AND THEN, FASTER THAN EVER, THE SWIFT VOYAGE BACK...

WHAT WAS THAT? LOOKED LIKE A KIND OF BLUE STREAK!

I WAS FEELING FINE UNTIL THIS BOAT STARTED ROCKING—GULP! EXCUSE ME A MINUTE...

HERE'S YOUR ICE—STRAIGHT FROM AN ICEBERG! AND IT'S STILL NOT MELTED! WHAT ELSE CAN I DO TO CONVINCE YOU?

OOOH, WHAT A LOVELY PEARLY COLOR!

THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA—MAYBE THERE IS SOMETHING IN WHAT YOU SAY! LET ME SEE YOU GET A STRING OF PEARLS FROM THE SEA!

I'LL GET YOU A STRING OF THE LARGEST PEARLS EVER SEEN.

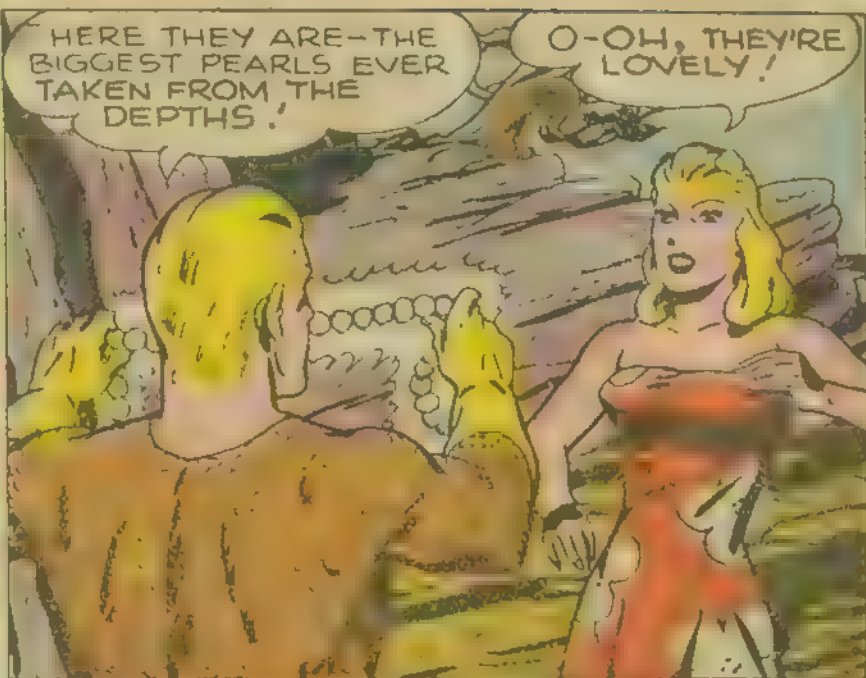
A DESPERATE EFFORT! FAR OUT AND DEEP DOWN INTO THE SEA RACES THE WATER MAN!

THERE SHOULD BE SOME AROUND HERE, MY FISH FRIENDS TELL ME—DOWN HERE WHERE THE GREAT OYSTERS GROW—AND NO MAN EVER SET FOOT BEFORE!

HERE THEY ARE—I NEVER SAW OYSTERS THIS SIZE BEFORE! NOW I'LL DO THEM A FAVOR BY TAKING OUT THE PEARLS—MOST PEOPLE DON'T REALIZE PEARLS ARE A SICK GROWTH IN AN OYSTER...

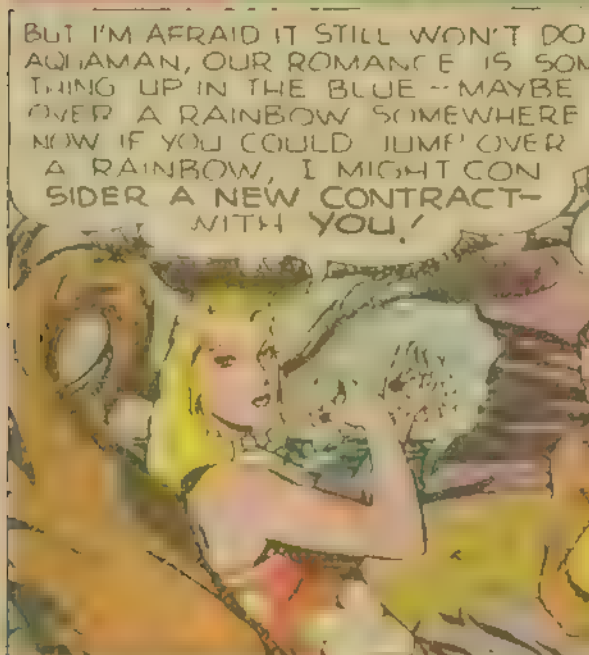


THERE'S A BIG ONE FOR THE CENTER! THIS WILL COMPLETE THE NECKLACE... A NECKLACE THAT SHOULD KNOCK EVEN HOLLYWOOD'S EYE OUT!



HERE THEY ARE--THE BIGGEST PEARLS EVER TAKEN FROM THE DEPTHS!

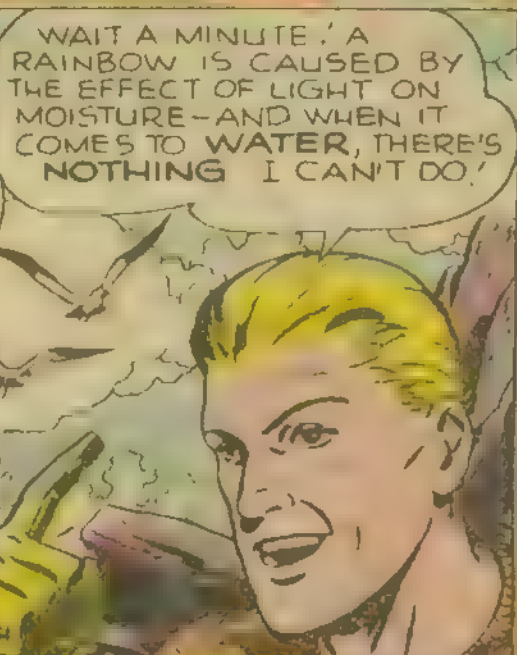
O-OH, THEY'RE LOVELY!



BUT I'M AFRAID IT STILL WON'T DO... AQUAMAN, OUR ROMANCE IS SOMETHING UP IN THE BLUE--MAYBE OVER A RAINBOW SOMEWHERE. NOW IF YOU COULD JUMP OVER A RAINBOW, I MIGHT CONSIDER A NEW CONTRACT--WITH YOU!



WHAT! GET OVER A RAINBOW--THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! THERE ISN'T ANY RAINBOW AROUND--AND I COULDN'T DO IT IF THERE WERE.



WAIT A MINUTE! A RAINBOW IS CAUSED BY THE EFFECT OF LIGHT ON MOISTURE--AND WHEN IT COMES TO WATER, THERE'S NOTHING I CAN'T DO!



JUST WAIT RIGHT HERE--YOU'LL HAVE A RAINBOW! AND I'LL JUMP OVER IT!

THE MAN'S MAD! IT CAN'T BE DONE NOT EVEN IN TECHNICOLOR



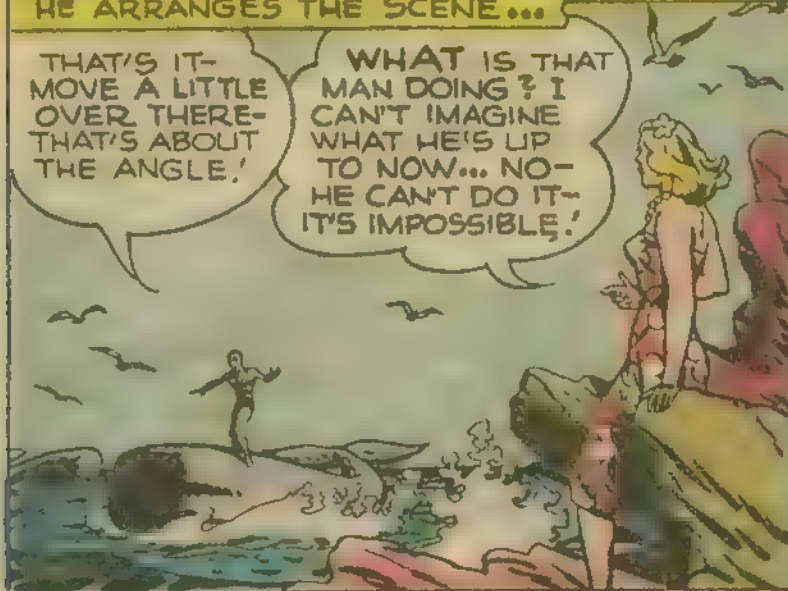
AQUAMAN CALLED ON TWO OF HIS BEST DEEP-SEA FRIENDS...

I'LL HAVE TO GET THE ANGLE OF REFRACTION JUST RIGHT... SWIM OVER THIS WAY A LITTLE, MY FRIEND.

RAPIDLY GAUGING THE ANGLE BETWEEN THE SUN'S RAYS AND ESTHER'S LINE OF VISION, HE ARRANGES THE SCENE...

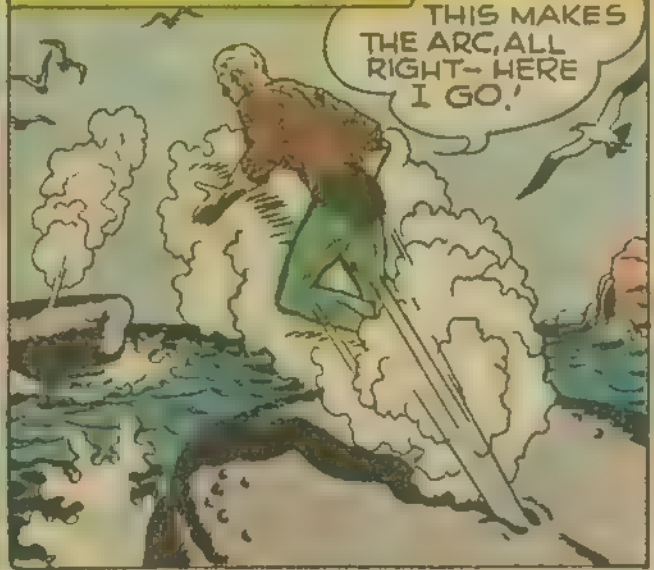
THAT'S IT—
MOVE A LITTLE
OVER THERE—
THAT'S ABOUT
THE ANGLE!

WHAT IS THAT
MAN DOING? I
CAN'T IMAGINE
WHAT HE'S UP
TO NOW... NO—
HE CAN'T DO IT—
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!



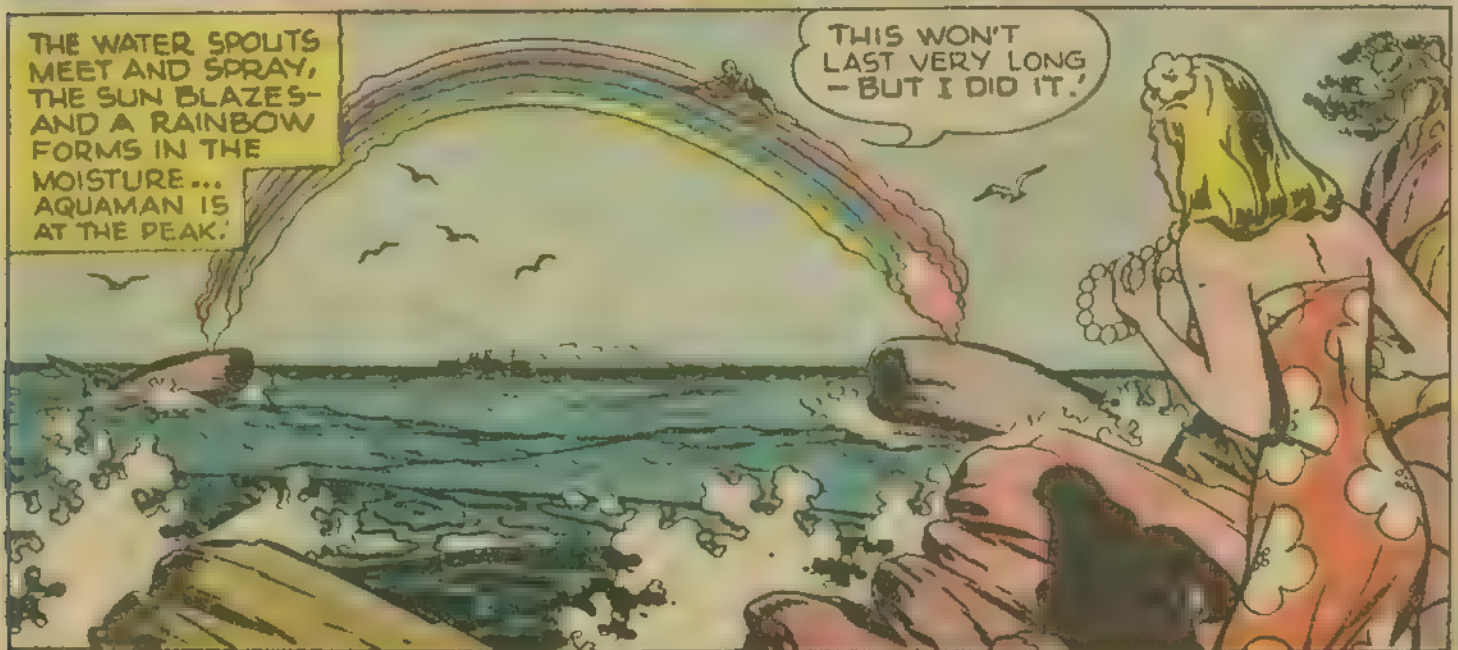
AQUAMAN GIVES THE SIGNAL! HE ARCHES UPWARD ON A GREAT SPOUT OF WATER...

THIS MAKES
THE ARC, ALL
RIGHT— HERE
I GO!



THE WATER SPOUTS
MEET AND SPRAY,
THE SUN BLAZES—
AND A RAINBOW
FORMS IN THE
MOISTURE...
AQUAMAN IS
AT THE PEAK!

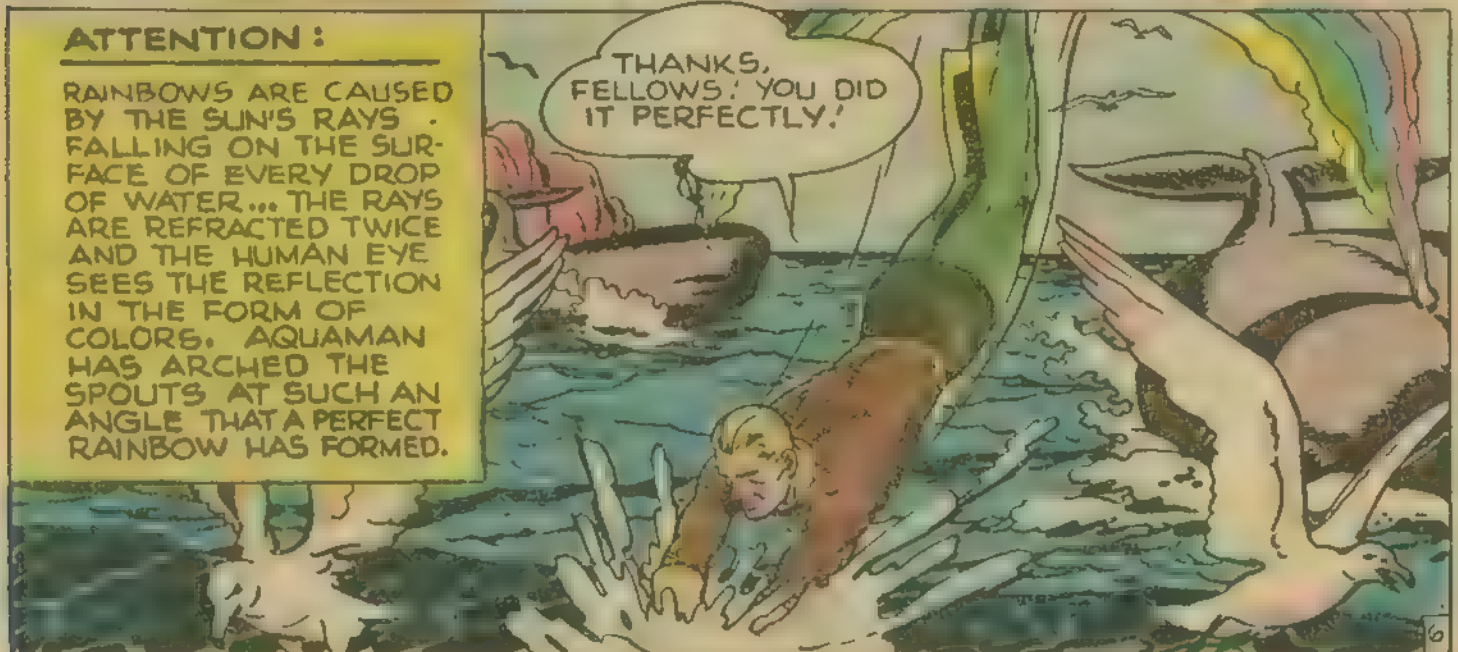
THIS WON'T
LAST VERY LONG
— BUT I DID IT!

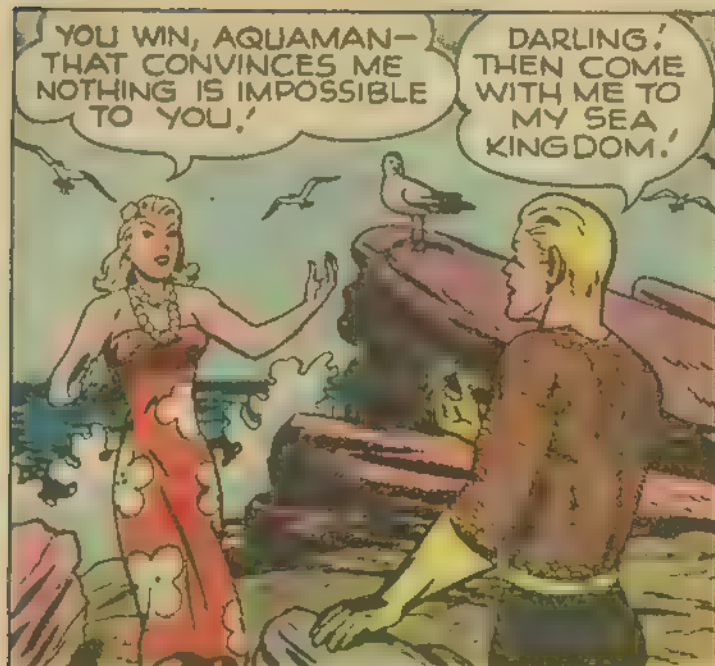


ATTENTION:

RAINBOWS ARE CAUSED BY THE SUN'S RAYS FALLING ON THE SURFACE OF EVERY DROP OF WATER... THE RAYS ARE REFRACTED TWICE AND THE HUMAN EYE SEES THE REFLECTION IN THE FORM OF COLORS. AQUAMAN HAS ARCHED THE SPOUTS AT SUCH AN ANGLE THAT A PERFECT RAINBOW HAS FORMED.

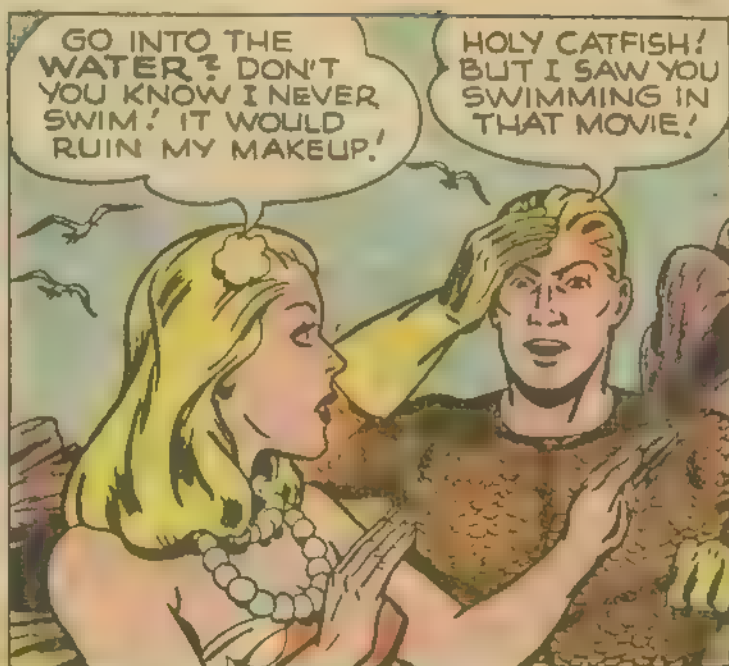
THANKS,
FELLOWS! YOU DID
IT PERFECTLY!





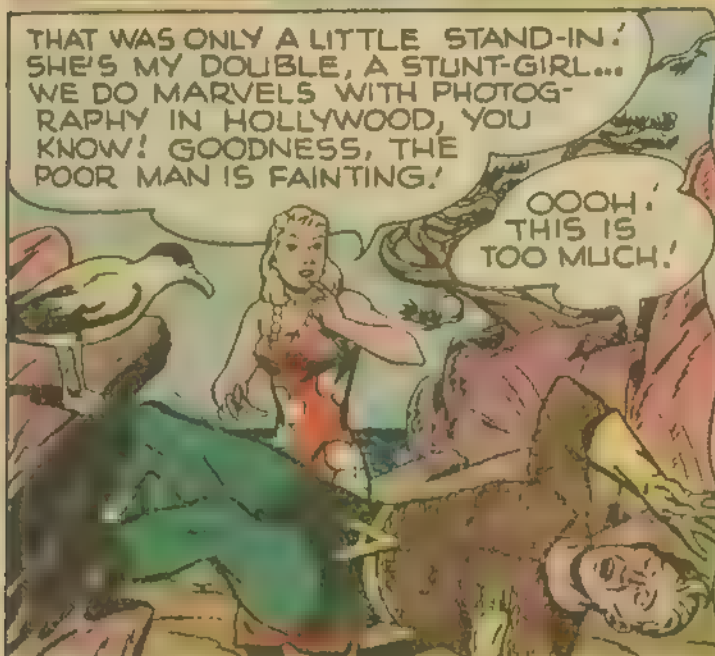
YOU WIN, AQUAMAN—
THAT CONVINCES ME
NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE
TO YOU!

DARLING!
THEN COME
WITH ME TO
MY SEA
KINGDOM!



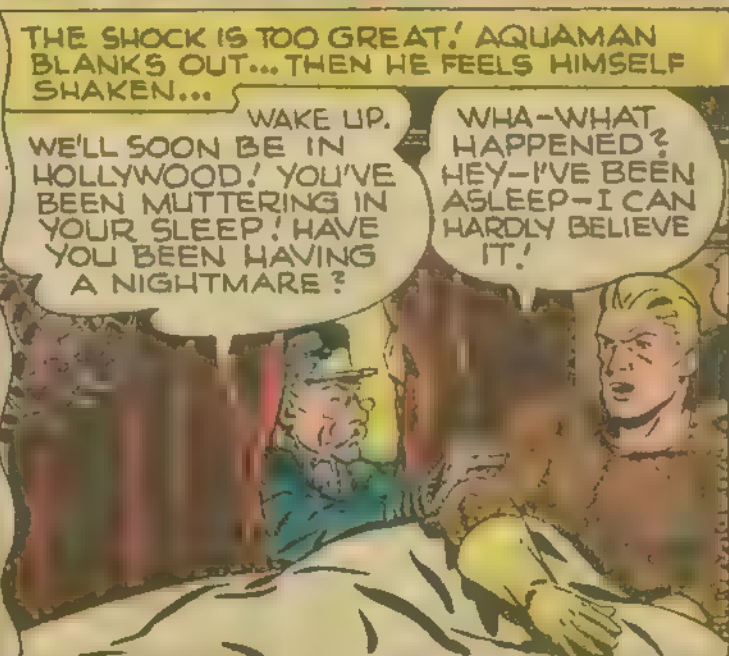
GO INTO THE
WATER? DON'T
YOU KNOW I NEVER
SWIM! IT WOULD
RUIN MY MAKEUP!

HOLY CATFISH!
BUT I SAW YOU
SWIMMING IN
THAT MOVIE!



THAT WAS ONLY A LITTLE STAND-IN!
SHE'S MY DOUBLE, A STUNT-GIRL...
WE DO MARVELS WITH PHOTOG-
RAPHY IN HOLLYWOOD, YOU
KNOW! GOODNESS, THE
POOR MAN IS FAINTING!

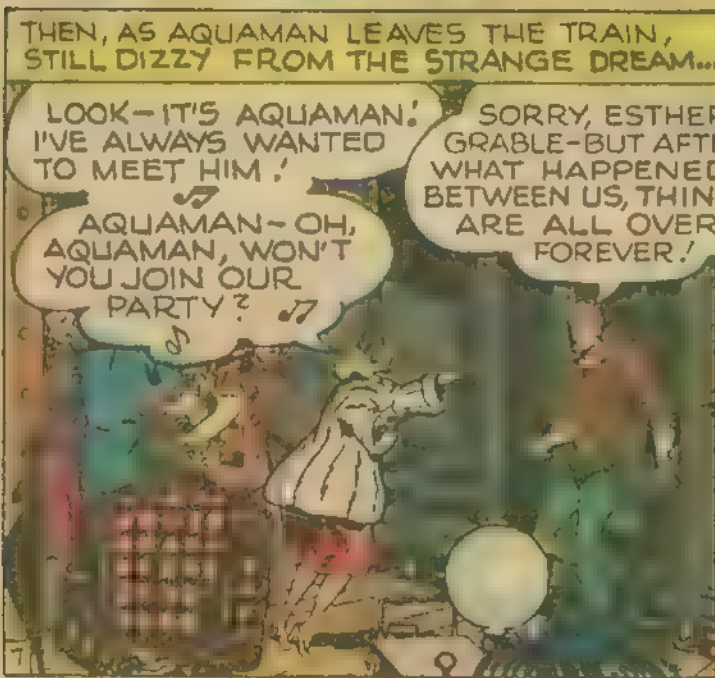
OOOH!
THIS IS
TOO MUCH!



THE SHOCK IS TOO GREAT! AQUAMAN
BLANKS OUT... THEN HE FEELS HIMSELF
SHAKEN...

WAKE UP.
WE'LL SOON BE IN
HOLLYWOOD! YOU'VE
BEEN MUTTERING IN
YOUR SLEEP! HAVE
YOU BEEN HAVING
A NIGHTMARE?

WHA-WHAT
HAPPENED?
HEY—I'VE BEEN
ASLEEP—I CAN
HARDLY BELIEVE
IT!

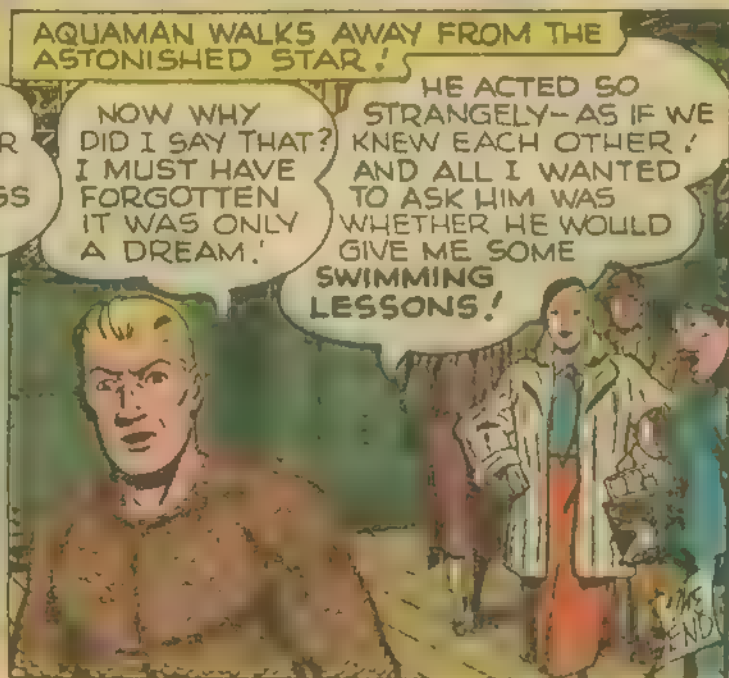


THEN, AS AQUAMAN LEAVES THE TRAIN,
STILL DIZZY FROM THE STRANGE DREAM...

LOOK—IT'S AQUAMAN!
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED
TO MEET HIM!

AQUAMAN—OH,
AQUAMAN, WON'T
YOU JOIN OUR
PARTY?

SORRY, ESTHER
GRABLE—BUT AFTER
WHAT HAPPENED
BETWEEN US, THINGS
ARE ALL OVER
FOREVER!



AQUAMAN WALKS AWAY FROM THE
ASTONISHED STAR!

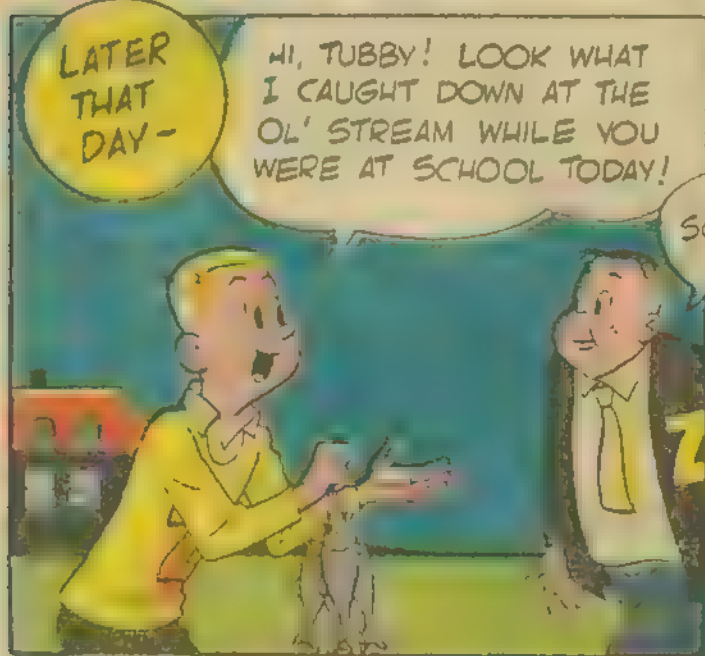
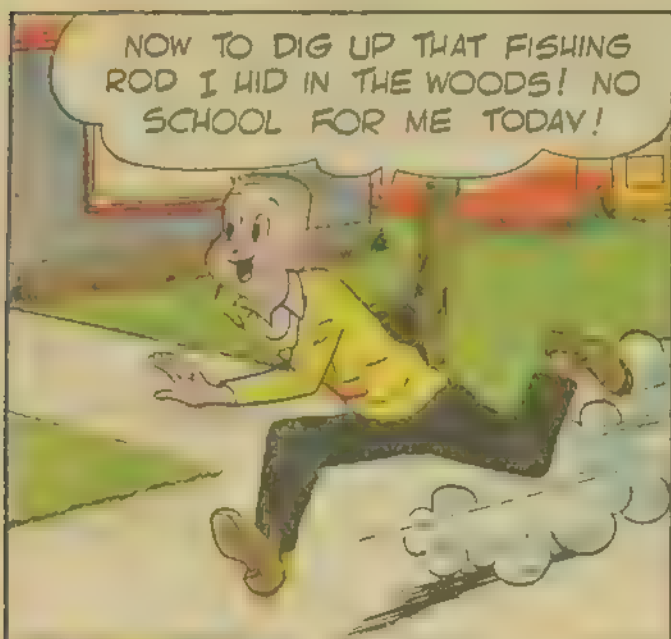
NOW WHY
DID I SAY THAT?
I MUST HAVE
FORGOTTEN
IT WAS ONLY
A DREAM!

HE ACTED SO
STRANGELY—AS IF WE
KNEW EACH OTHER!
AND ALL I WANTED
TO ASK HIM WAS
WHETHER HE WOULD
GIVE ME SOME
SWIMMING
LESSONS!

JERRY

THE JITTERBUG

KERRY
MOLT-DOFF



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Please Send Me FREE Movie Star Folder.

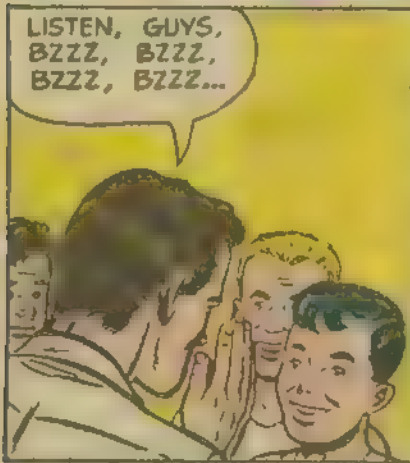
Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

WOW-BY A WHISPER!

ANOTHER JIM WISE "P-F" SPORTS STORY

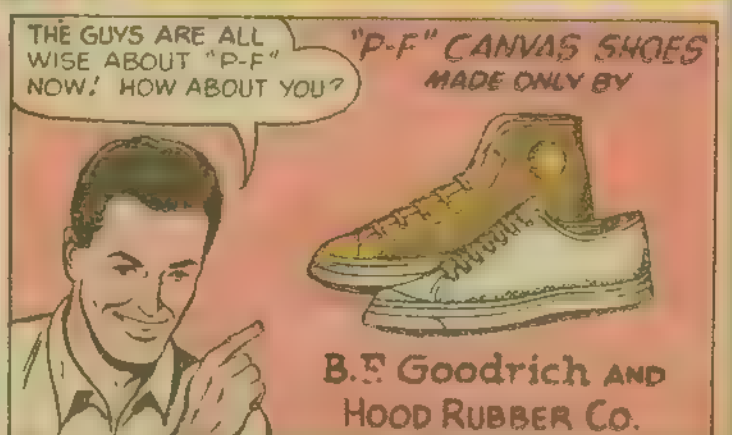
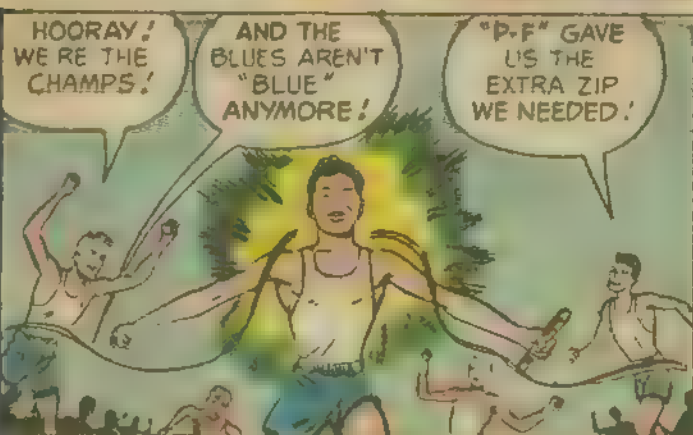


WHAT JIM TOLD THE BOYS ABOUT "P-F"
 HERE'S WHY "P-F" GIVES YOU MORE STAYING POWER, SPEEDS UP YOUR GAME, MAKES YOU A BETTER ATHLETE:

1. THIS RIGID WEDGE KEEPS THE BONES OF THE FOOT IN THEIR NATURAL, NORMAL POSITION.
2. THIS SPONGE RUBBER CUSHION ASSURES COMFORT FOR THE SENSITIVE AREA OF THE FOOT.



"P-F" MEANS POSTURE FOUNDATION - A PATENTED FEATURE FOUND ONLY IN "P-F" CANVAS SHOES

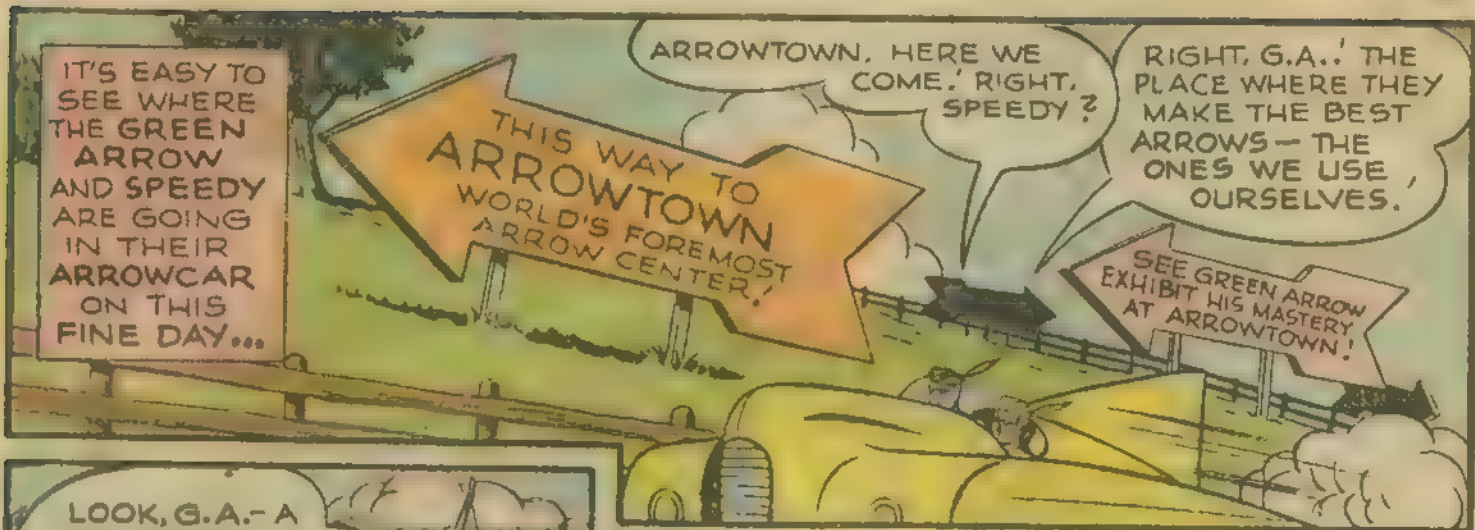


THE GREEN ARROW

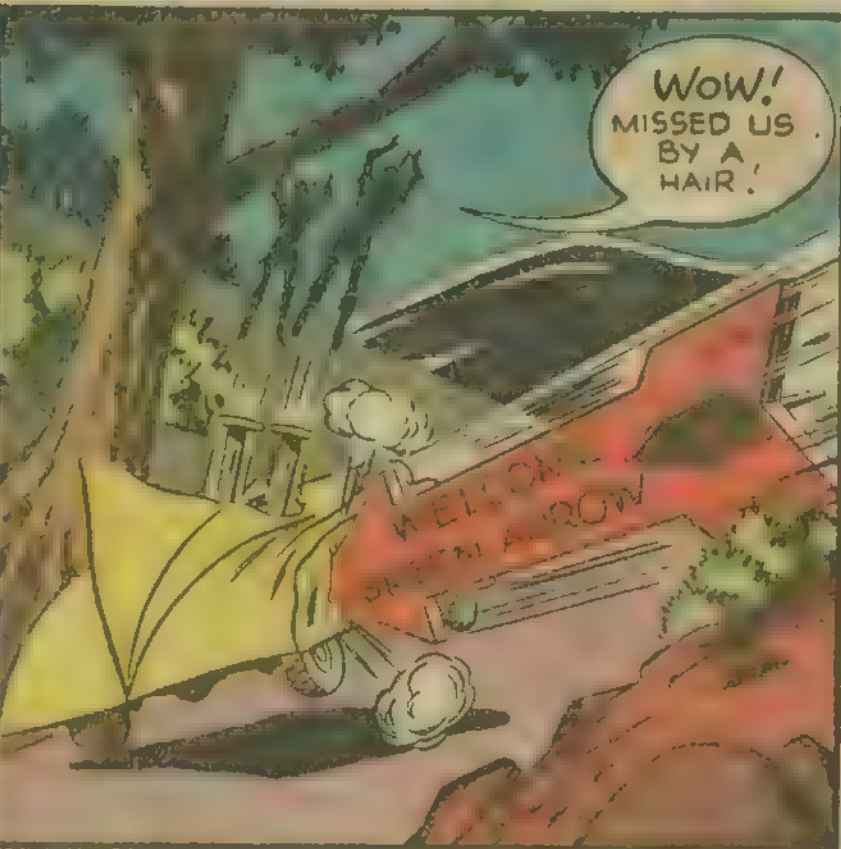
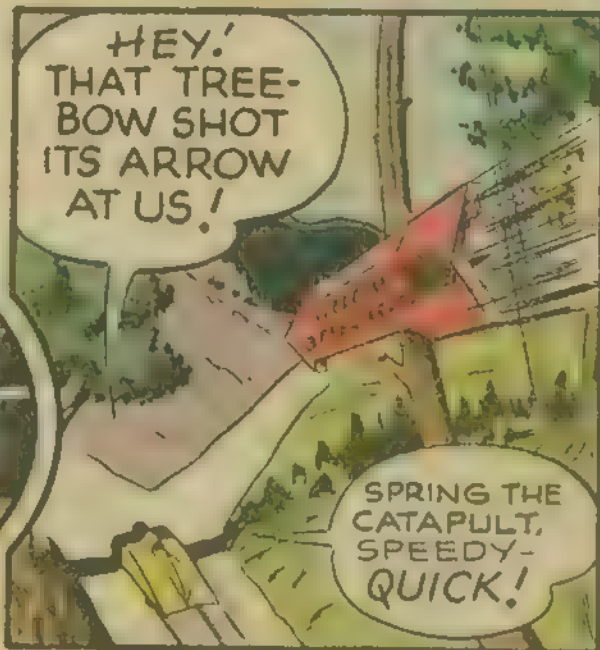
HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHERE GREEN ARROW AND SPEEDY GET THE ARROWS THEY USE IN SO MANY WONDERFUL WAYS? THEN PAY A VISIT WITH THEM TO ARROWTOWN AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN, AS THE TOWN'S HONORED GUESTS, THEIR CELEBRATION ALMOST TURNS INTO A FUNERAL—AND AN UNKNOWN CONSPIRATOR TRIES TO MAKE A BUNGLING BOWMAN OUT OF...

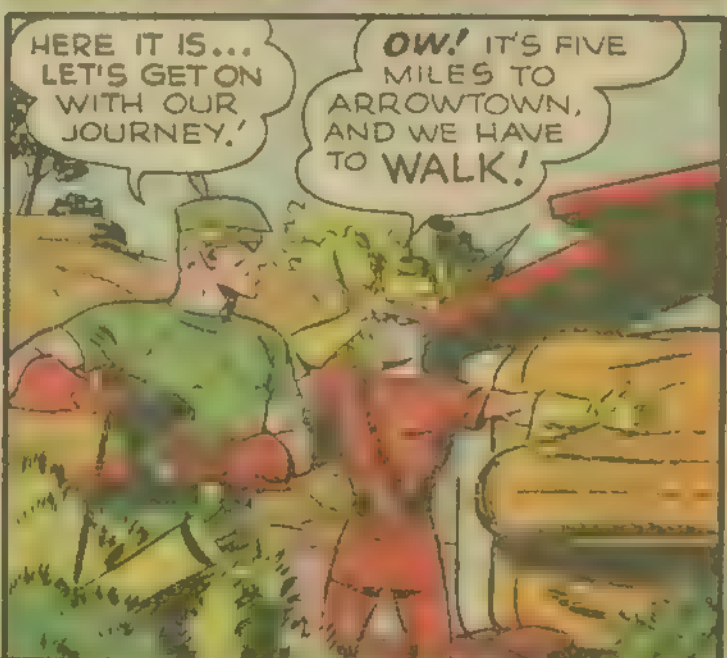
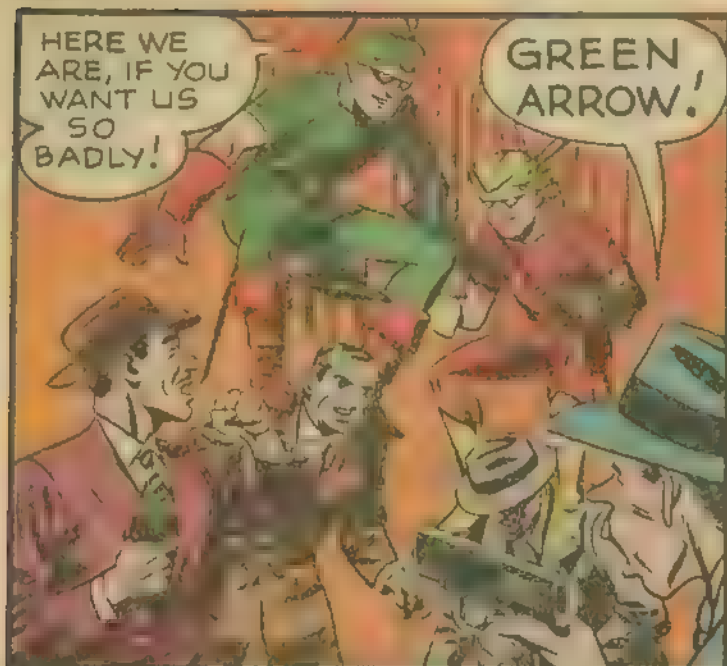
100 *The* **ARCHER OF TRIUMPH!**

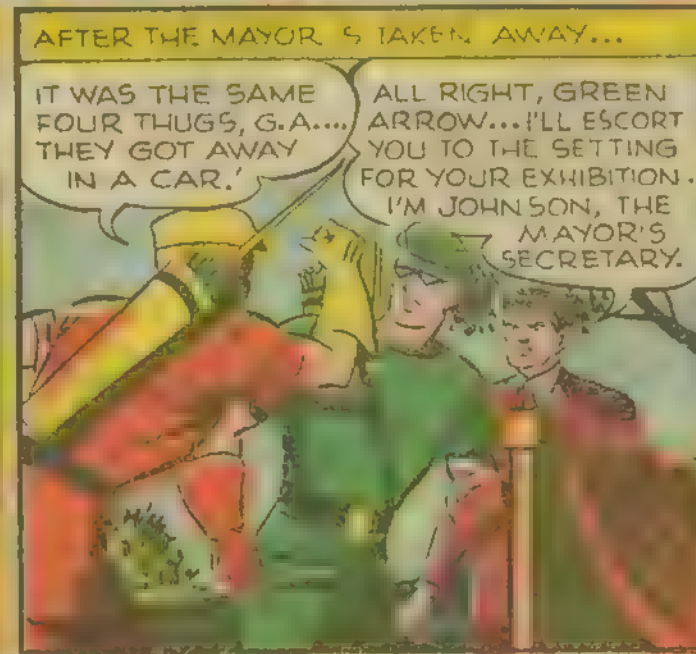
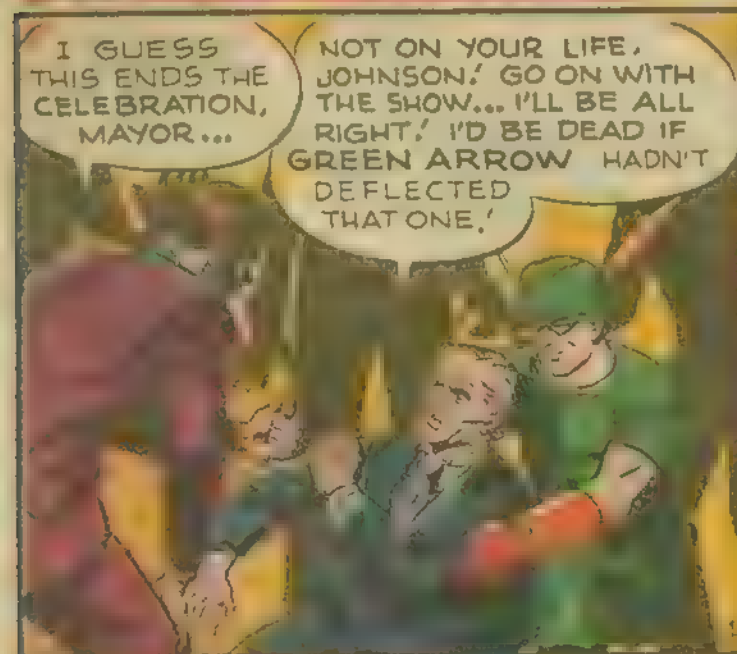
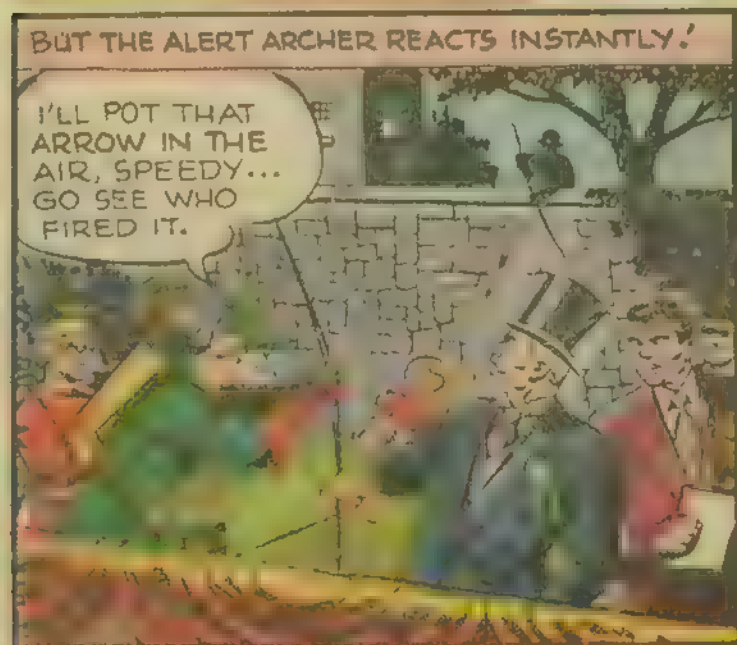
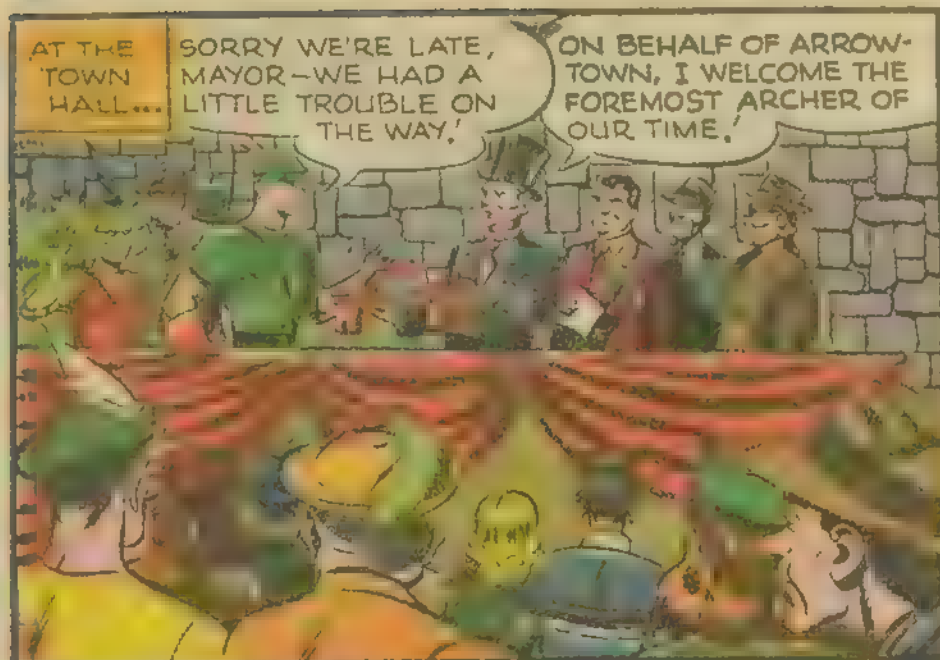


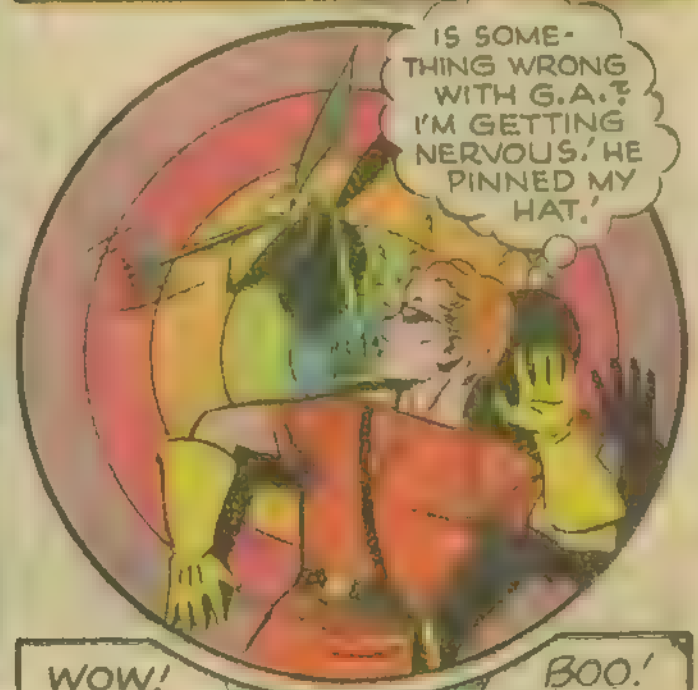
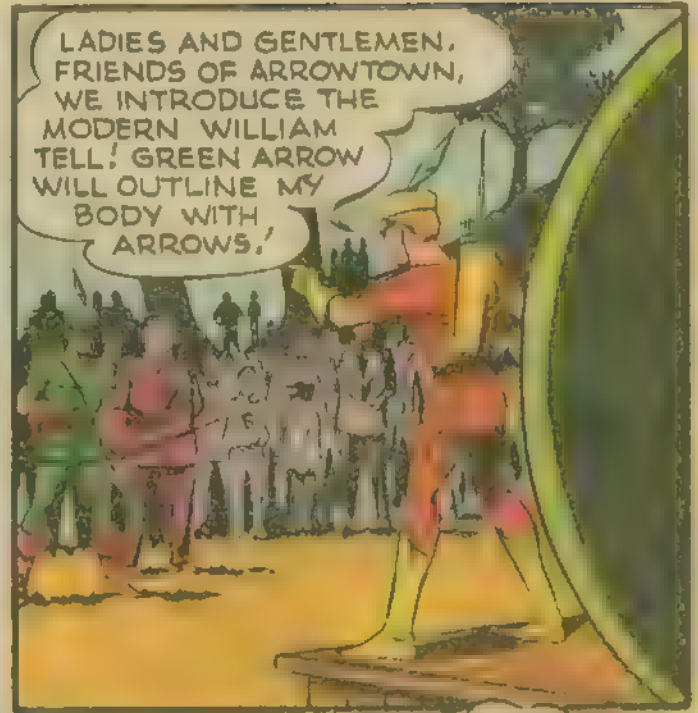


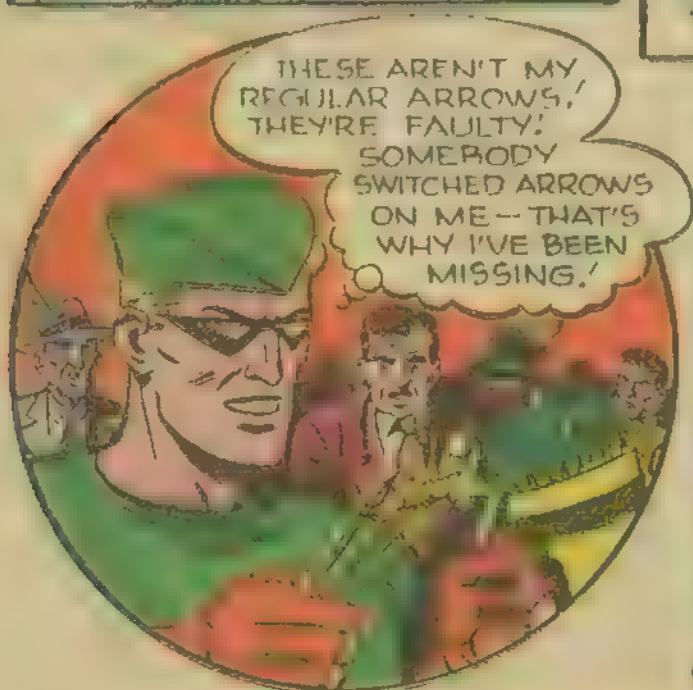
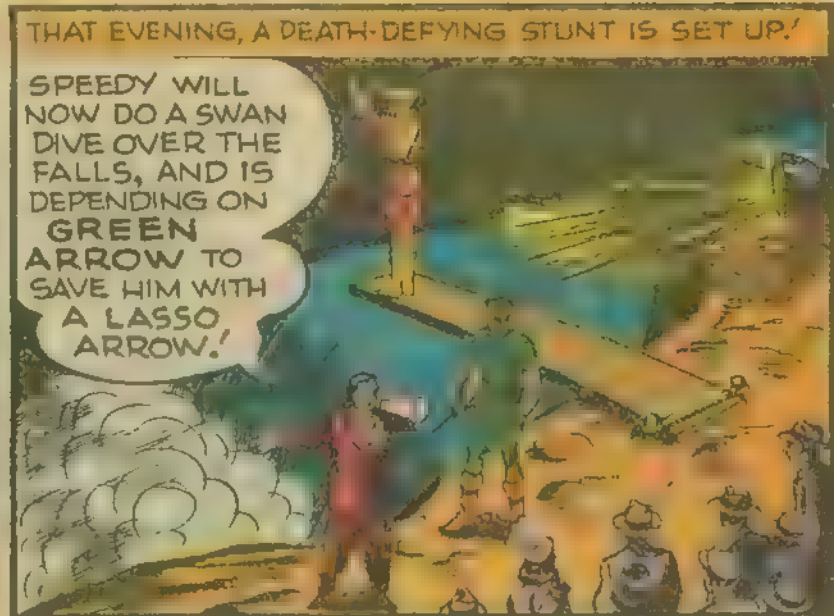
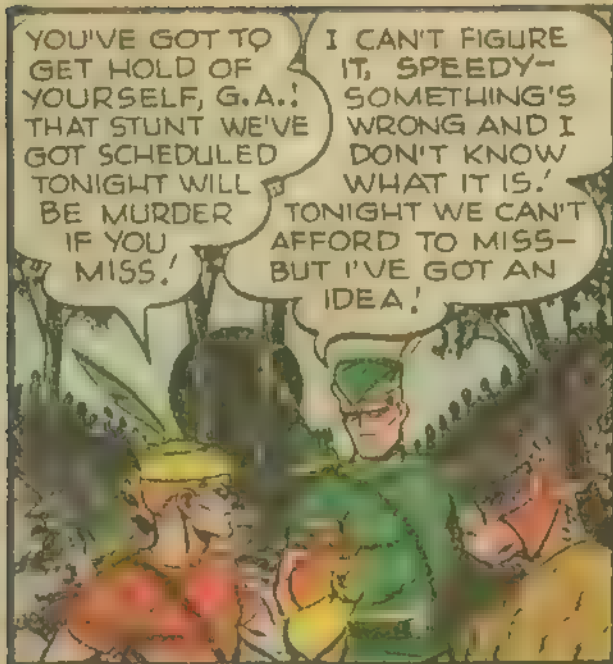
BUT WHAT'S THIS? AS THE ARROW-CAR PASSES A GREAT TREE, IT TRIPS A LEVER IN THE ROAD...



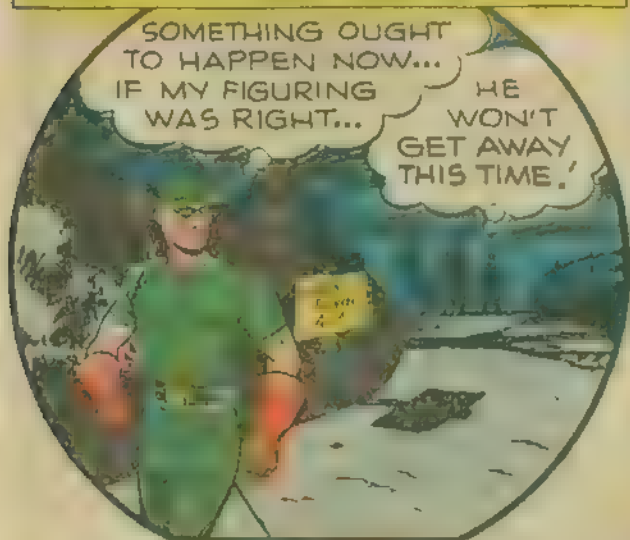




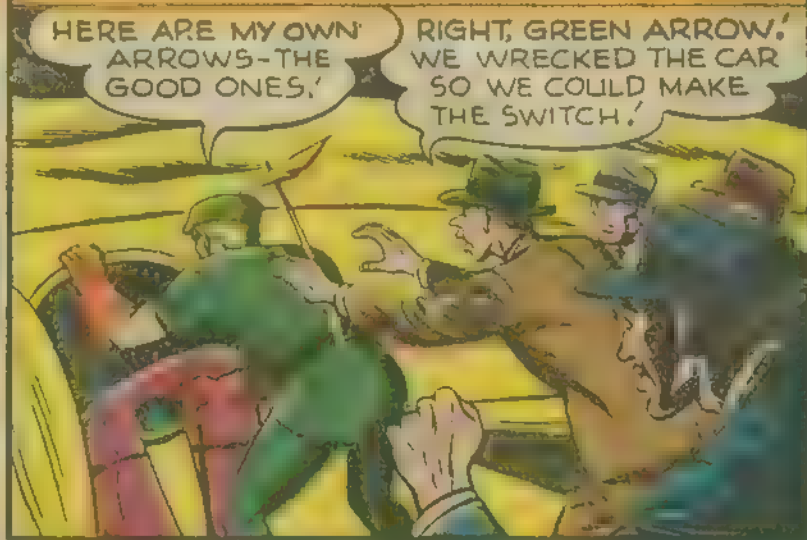


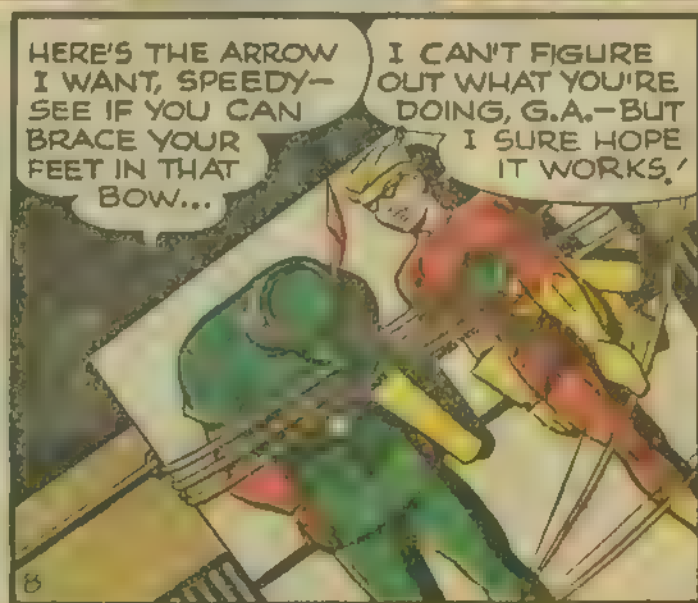
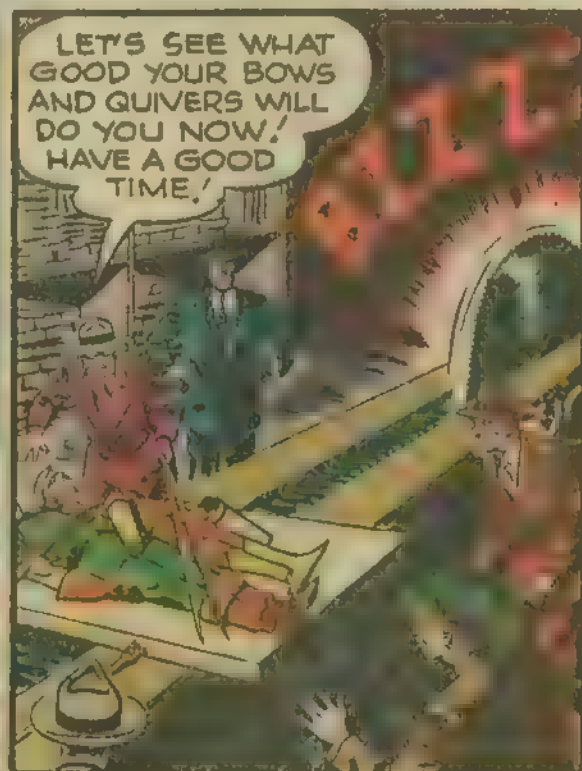
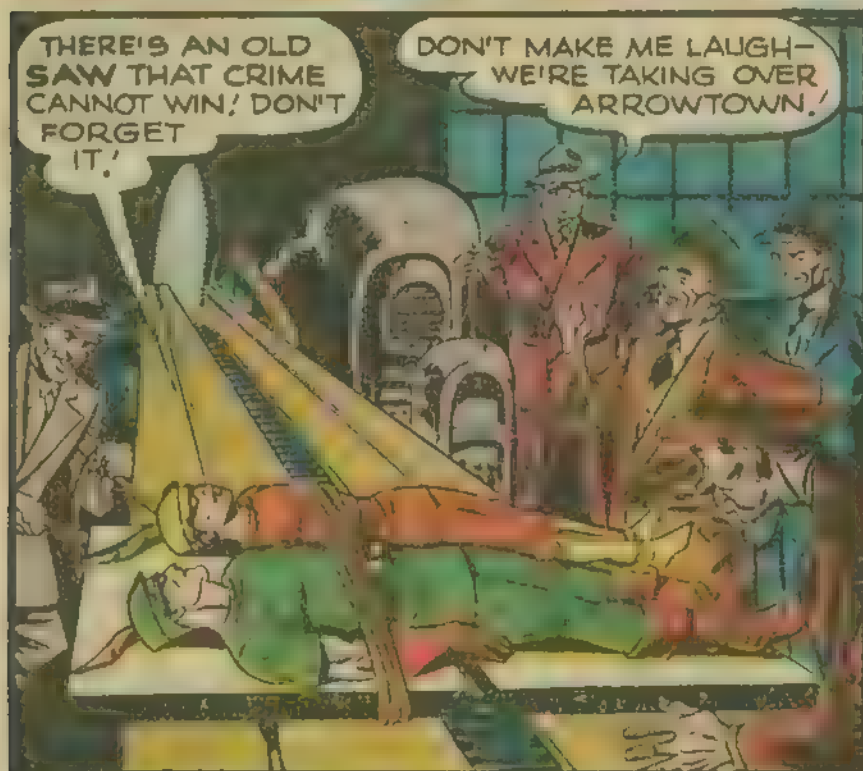
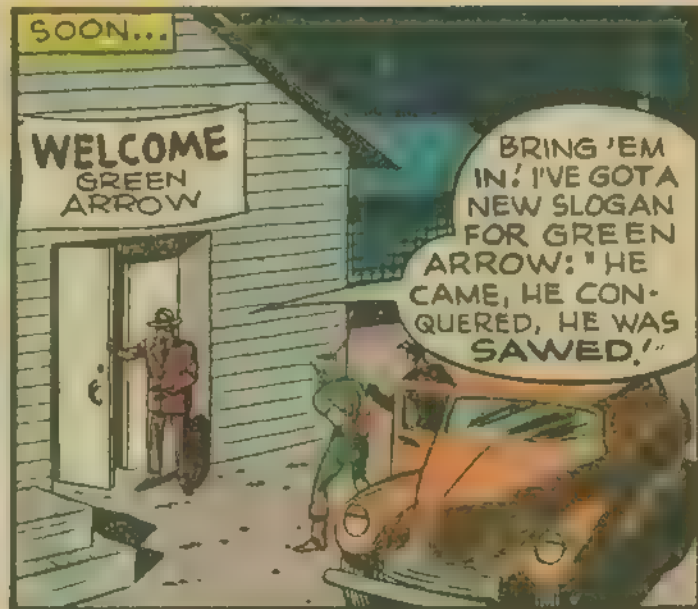


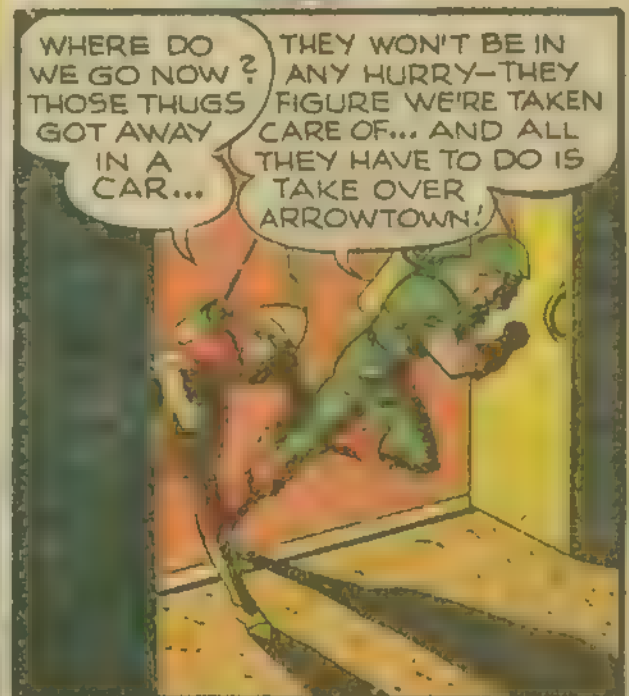
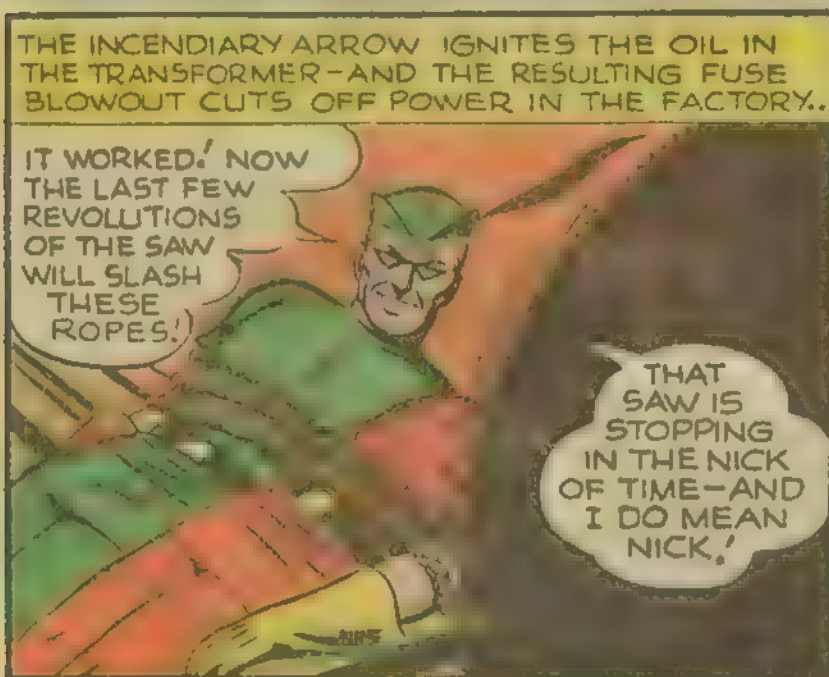
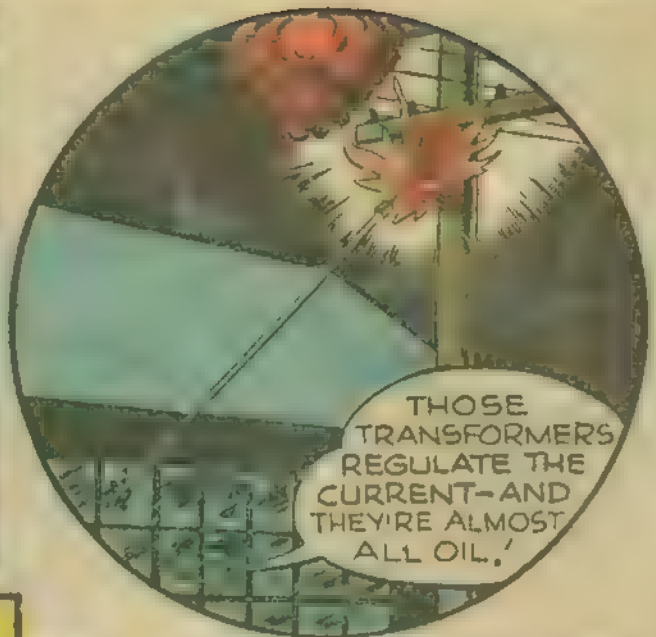
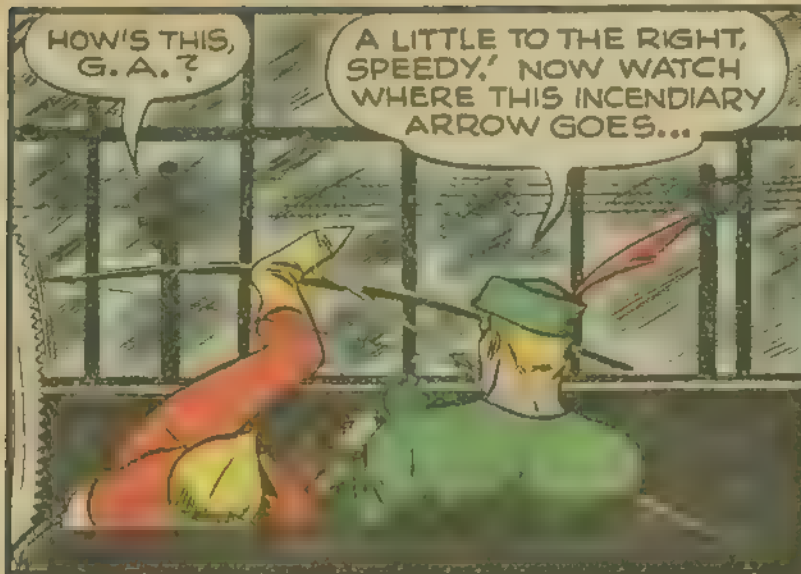
LATER... SEVERAL MILES FROM TOWN...

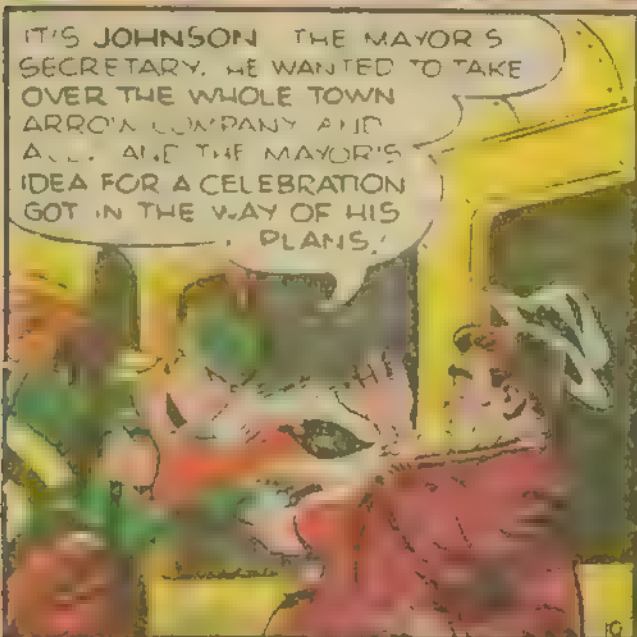


AT THE WRECKED ARROWCAR...









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BOY! I'M ASKING
MOM TO GET ME KELLOGG'S
VARIETY TODAY!



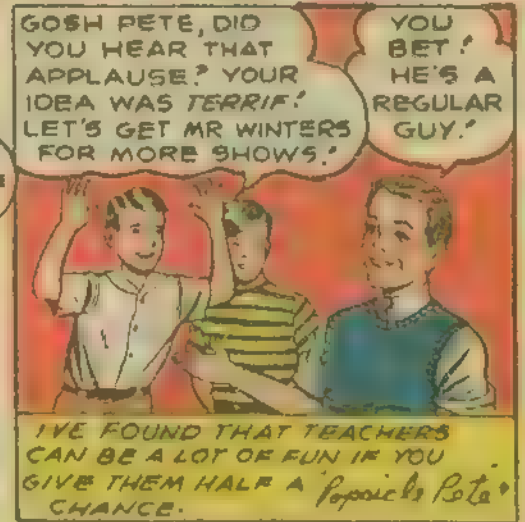
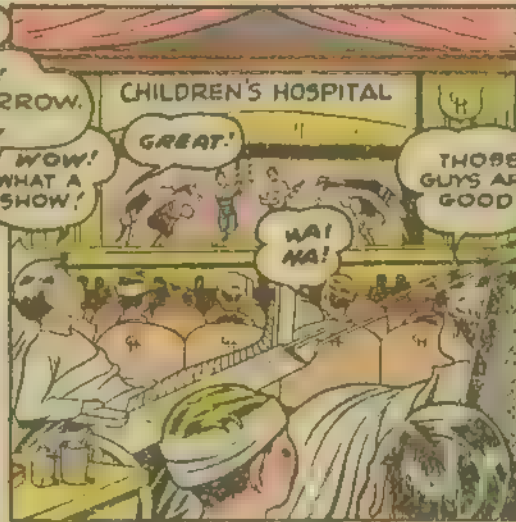
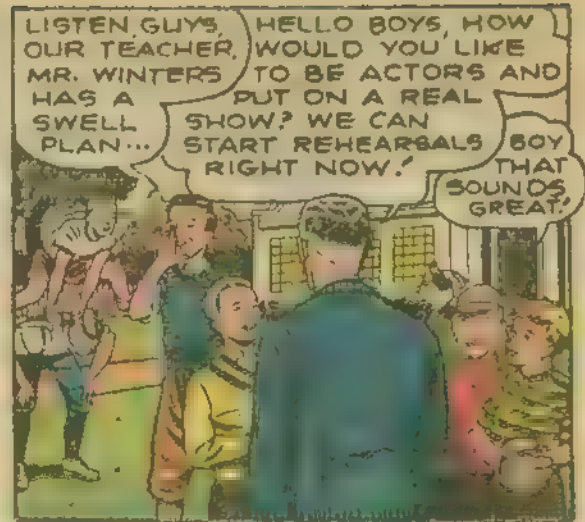
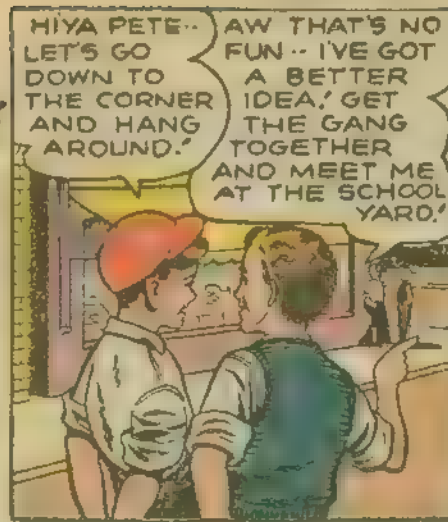
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THAT MAGNETIC PERSONALITY

THE two prospectors had been traveling straight ahead for more than a day, and one of them was growing uneasy. "Sure that map of yours is right, Bill?" he asked.

"Positive," answered the other, and looked once more at his compass. "We'll keep goin' due north, and soon—" Unexpectedly, his jaw dropped, and he gulped. "That ridge, with the scrub oak on it—we saw it yesterday! We've been travelin' in a circle!"

"Can't be," said his companion. "Compasses don't lie!"

But compasses *do* lie, as they discovered later when the stars came out, and they checked it against the North Star. Instead of pointing north, it pointed due east!

"It's that mountain," said Bill thoughtfully, "the needle keeps pointin' to that." He picked up a small lump of dark shiny rock. "Magnetic iron ore—no wonder the needle didn't point north!" And then he grinned. "Maybe we're lucky at that, Jim," he observed. "Iron ore ain't as pretty as gold, but sometimes it's a lot more valuable. We stake our claim right here!"

The fact that certain kinds of iron ore would attract iron or steel was known to the ancient Greeks. They called the ore "lodestone," and many of them thought that it was inhabited by a spirit that attracted the spirit of the iron. Even in modern times, many of us have similar ideas, and any one who attracts other people is said to have a "magnetic personality." But scientists know now that magnets are not alive, and that a magnet really has no personality at all.

But even if it has no personality, a magnet can be a fascinating thing. You can buy small magnets of different kinds in a

novelty store, five-and-ten, or hardware store. Scientists use many kinds, but the kind you buy are usually either a straight bar of iron, or a small horseshoe. The horseshoe magnets are more common.

The first thing you find out about a magnet is that only the ends attract iron. The middle parts don't attract anything. One end is known as the North pole, and the other end, the South pole. Either end will attract a pin, a needle, or a small nail. But bring two magnets together, and you'll find an interesting thing. Place the North pole of one next to the South pole of the other, and the magnets will jump together with a click. But place two North poles together—and they push each other apart! Opposite poles attract—like poles repel.

Is anything wrong with the middle of a magnet—is it made of a different kind of iron—is that the reason it doesn't attract a pin or needle? No, that isn't it at all. Take a long, thin bar magnet, thin enough so that it can be broken. Test it in the middle—it doesn't attract. Now break it, and you'll find that each half is a magnet, and that the same part that couldn't attract a pin when it was the middle of a long magnet, attracts very well now that it is at the end. Again break one of the shorter magnets into two, and you'll find that the smaller pieces are also magnets. Always, the ends attract, the middle does not.

The earth itself is a great big magnet, with a North pole and a South pole, and both these poles attract. But the middle of the earth does not attract—unless, as we have seen, it contains iron ore, or some other magnetic material. So a magnetized needle, able to swing freely in a compass, will usually turn with its South pole pointing to the earth's North, and its North pole to the earth's South. But the needle will also make

mistakes, as Columbus found out when he sailed for America, and learned that his compass and the stars disagreed as to the location of the North Pole. Therefore, modern compasses are built in a different way, without magnets, so that they won't go wrong as the earth's magnetism changes.

However, even though ships and planes no longer trust magnetic compasses, they depend on magnetism much more than Columbus or any other old sailor did. This is because magnetism is so closely related to electricity.

If you have a magnet, you can make electricity. Make a hollow coil of wire, and attach the ends to a meter that will measure small amounts of current. Now spin the magnet rapidly inside the coil, and a tiny current will pass through the wire.

On the other hand, if you have electricity, you can make a magnet. Take an ordinary bar of iron, and wrap insulated wire around it. Now, send a current through the wire, and you will find that your bar of iron has become a magnet. If the iron is "soft"—that is, if you can scratch it fairly well with a knife—it will lose most of its magnetism once the current is cut off. But if the iron is in the form of hard steel, it will keep a good part of its magnetism. So nowadays we don't have to depend on luck to find magnetic "lodestones," but we can make magnets whenever we want them.

If you look into the generator of a car or plane, you will find a magnet. It takes the energy of exploding gasoline, and helps change it into electricity. And in a motor, it starts with electricity, and uses the electrical energy to move different parts. Thus, wherever you have a generator, or an electric motor, you have a magnet.

But magnets are used in many other ways as well. You'll find little magnets in telephones, and other message-sending equipment, and you'll find giant magnets used

for strong-arm work. Sometime, if you go to a yard where scrap iron is collected, you may see a great horseshoe that can lift many times its own weight of steel. This is an electromagnet. Current is sent through the wires that surround it, and the iron turns into a magnet and grabs a ton of scrap. Then, when the magnet is swung over a railroad car, the current is turned off, the magnet changes back into a plain piece of iron, and drops the scrap into the car.

Of all the elements that chemists know, only three can be strongly magnetized—iron, nickel, and cobalt. But iron makes much the best magnet of these three when it is pure. However, when these metals are mixed with other elements, or *alloyed*, we can get magnets much more powerful than can be made from pure iron. Using the new alloys, scientists can now make tiny magnets that weigh little, take up little space, and do a big job.

You will find that a magnet will not attract gold, or copper, or silver, or any other fairly pure metal you are likely to have around except iron. A small horseshoe magnet won't even attract the nickel in a nickel coin, because that has too much copper mixed with it. But there are other elements that are weakly magnetic, and strangely enough, one of them is the oxygen in the air we breathe. You can't attract oxygen with your own small magnet, but a scientist can do it in his laboratory. This property of oxygen is important in some of the chemical compounds it forms.

Magnetism is important in many ways that the average person doesn't realize. It can produce more intense cold than the refrigerator in your kitchen, and it can split atoms in a cyclotron. It does tricks that the ancient Greeks would have regarded as real magic—and it all developed from the lodestone they discovered.

William Morrison



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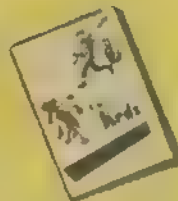


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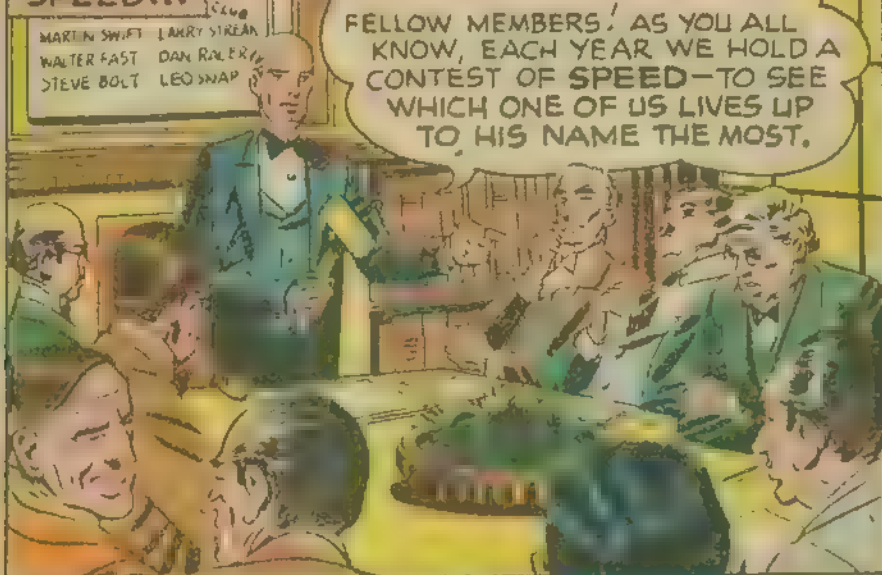




AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NIMBLE NAMES CLUB—A GROUP OF MEN GATHER WHOSE NAMES ALL INDICATE SPEED...

MARTIN SWIFT LARRY STREAK
WALTER FAST DAN RULER
STEVE BOLT LEO SNAP

FELLOW MEMBERS! AS YOU ALL KNOW, EACH YEAR WE HOLD A CONTEST OF SPEED—TO SEE WHICH ONE OF US LIVES UP TO HIS NAME THE MOST.



THE SILVER CUP THIS YEAR WAS DONATED BY AN HONORARY MEMBER, JOE GO... HE ALSO SENT ALONG THE TASK FOR YOU TO PERFORM—TO COUNT ALL THE ANIMALS AT THE PARK ZOO!



AND THE NEXT DAY, AT THE ZOO...

MEMBERS, THE MAN WHO FIRST RETURNS WITH THE CORRECT TOTAL WINS THE SPEED CUP! NOW... GO!



IT IS A CONTEST OF CLEVERNESS AS WELL AS SPEED, AND MEMBER LARRY STREAK HASTENS TO THE ZOO KITCHENS...

ALL THE ANIMALS HAVE TO BE FED, SO I'LL SIMPLY COUNT THE NUMBER OF DISHES SET OUT! ONE-TWO-THREE...



WHILE MARTIN SWIFT USES A SMALL TELESCOPE...

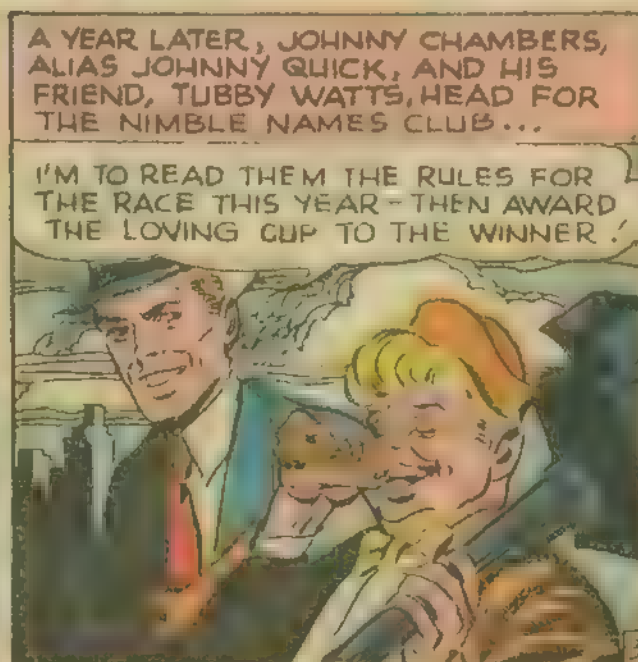
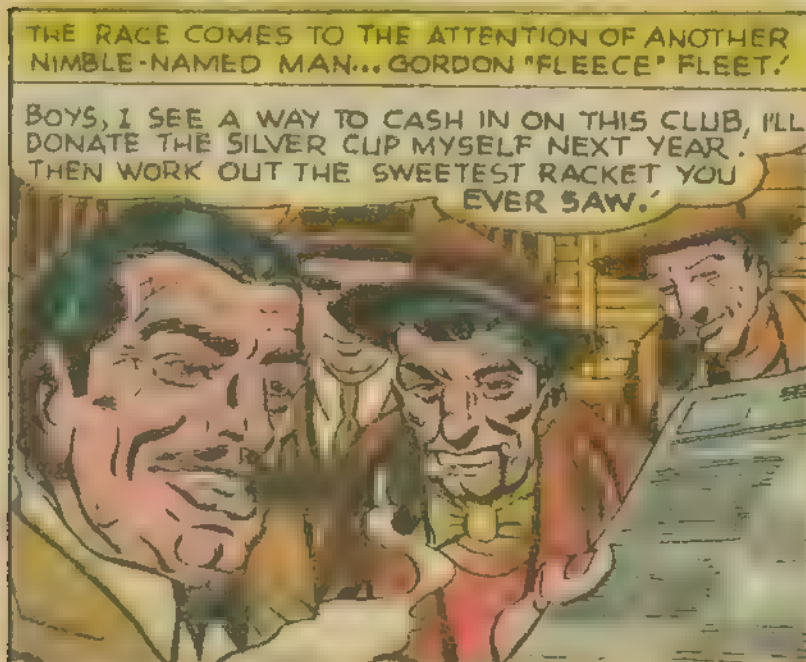
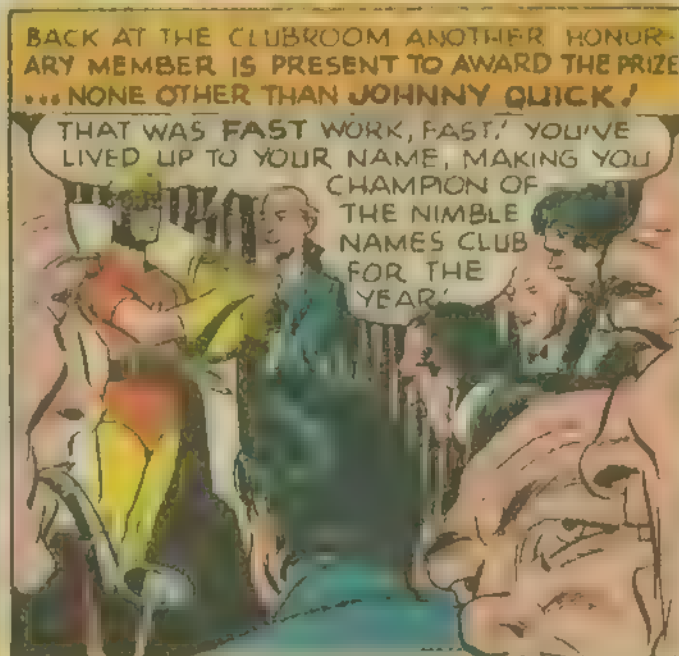
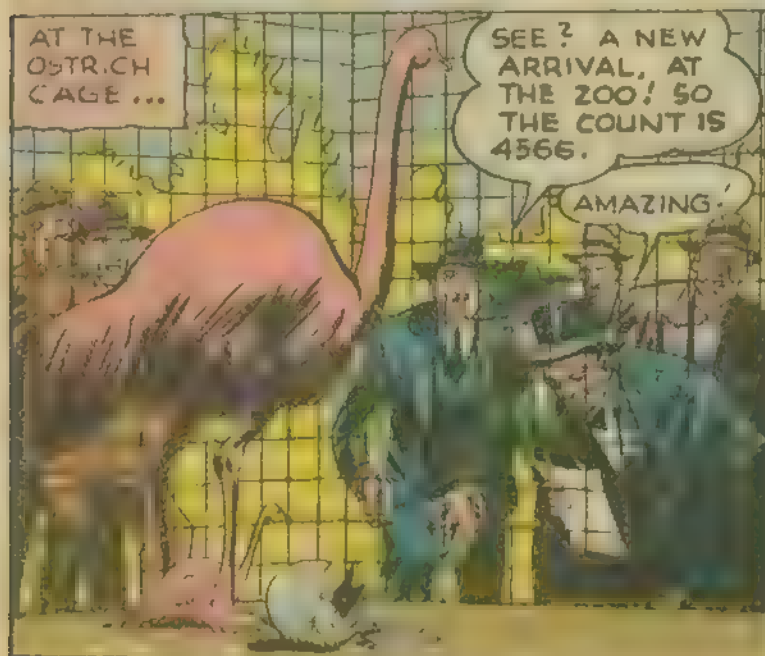
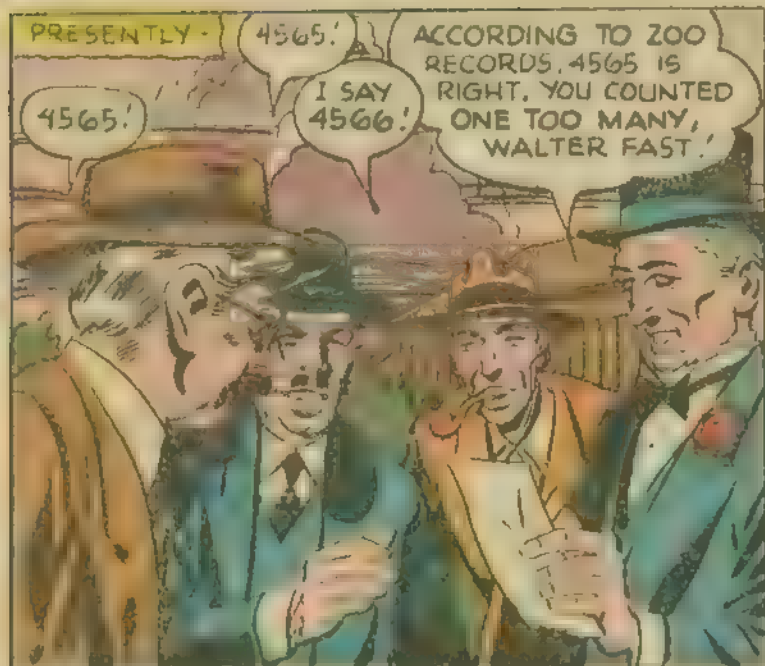
I CAN SEE ALL THE ANIMALS FROM HERE, INSIDE AND OUT. THIS RACE WILL GO TO THE SWIFT—ME!... ONE-TWO-THREE...



BUT THE CLEVEREST METHOD OF ALL IS USED BY WALTER FAST!

GROUP PICTURES OF ANIMALS IS THE ANSWER! I'LL MAKE QUICK PRINTS IN MY PORTABLE DARK-ROOM, THEN COUNT THE ANIMALS IN BLACK AND WHITE!





LATER... ... AND HERE IS MR. GORDON FLEET, WHO DONATED THIS YEAR'S SILVER CUP—NOW, FOR THE TASK HE HAS SET TO TEST YOUR SPEED AND INGENUITY...



TOMORROW, AT A GIVEN SIGNAL, YOU WILL ALL ATTEMPT TO REACH THE TOWER OF THE EVEREST SKYSCRAPER—BUT WITHOUT USING THE ELEVATORS! THE FIRST MAN TO REACH THE TOP WINS!



THAT NIGHT, IN THE APARTMENT OF MARTIN SWIFT...

CAN'T CLIMB STAIRS—TOO SLOW! HOW CAN I WIN? I STILL CAN'T FIGURE OUT A WAY...



THE DOORBELL RINGS AND...

MESSAGE FOR MARTIN SWIFT, FROM GORDON FLEET. SIGN HERE.

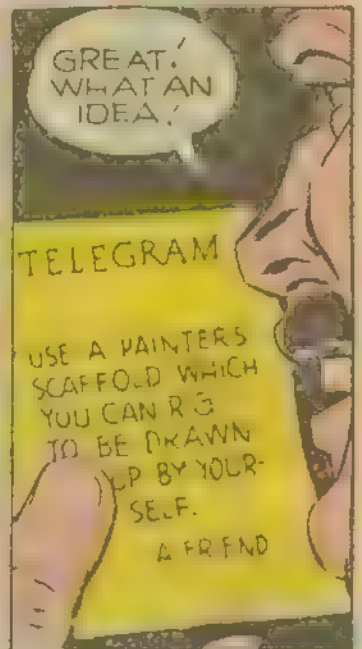
FROM FLEET? NOW WHAT...?



GREAT! WHAT AN IDEA!

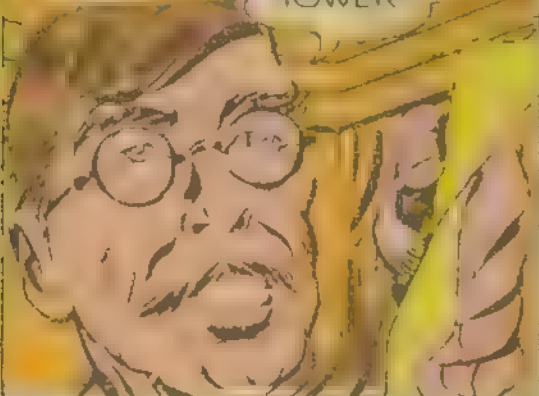
TELEGRAM

USE A PAINTER'S SCAFFOLD WHICH YOU CAN RISE TO BE DRAWN UP BY YOURSELF.
A FRIEND

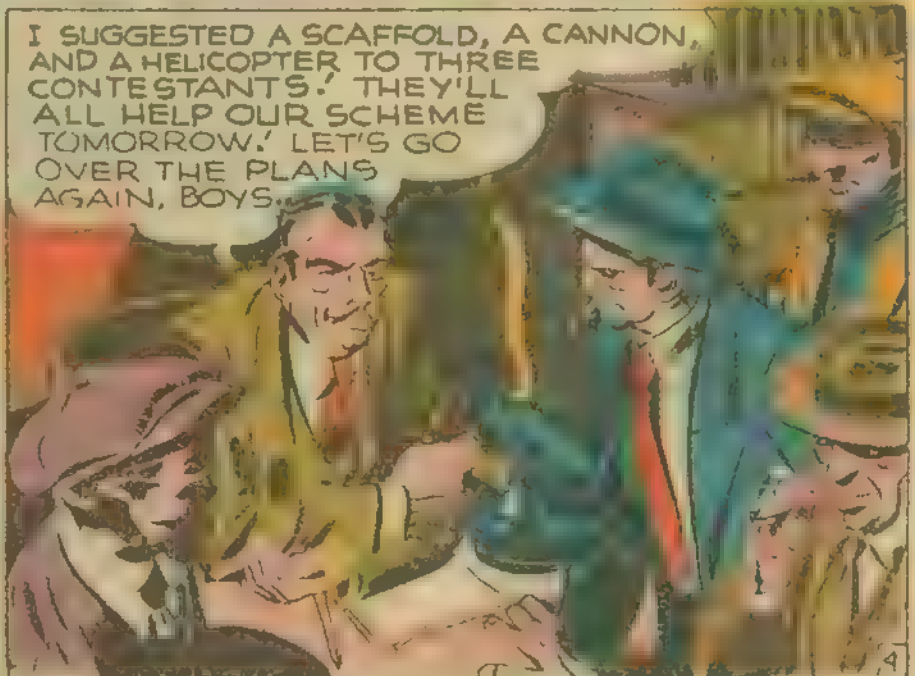


LARRY STREAK ALSO RECEIVES A TIMELY SUGGESTION...

AN UNKNOWN FRIEND SAYS TO RENT THE APPARATUS AND BE A HUMAN CANNONBALL! I'LL BE SHOT TO THE 30TH FLOOR INSTANTLY, THEN RUSH UP THE STAIRS TO THE TOWER...



I SUGGESTED A SCAFFOLD, A CANNON, AND A HELICOPTER TO THREE CONTESTANTS! THEY'LL ALL HELP OUR SCHEME TOMORROW! LET'S GO OVER THE PLANS AGAIN, BOYS.



WHILE AT HIS OFFICE, ACE NEWSREEL CAMERAMAN JOHNNY CHAMBERS IS PUZZLED!

ONE THING BOTHERS ME—ALL THE NIMBLE NAMERS ARE PROMINENT MEN—WITH THE SOLE EXCEPTION OF GORDON FLEET! IT BOTHERS ME, TUBBY... *TUBBY...*



TUBBY! YOU DIDN'T HEAR A WORD I SAID. WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?



I'M TRYIN' A LITTLE EXPERIMENT WITH THIS HYDROGEN GAS! I'LL TELL YA MORE LATER—IF IT WORKS!



THE NEXT DAY, ON THE SIDEWALK IN FRONT OF THE EVEREST SKYSCRAPER...

READY, MEN? YOU MUST REACH THE TOWER BY ANY METHOD EXCEPT THE ELEVATORS! ON YOUR MARKS... GET SET... GO!

WONDER WHERE TUBBY IS?



ACROSS THE STREET—IN A VACANT LOT...

IT COST A PRETTY PENNY TO HIRE THIS FROM THE CIRCUS, BUT IT'LL BE WORTH IT.



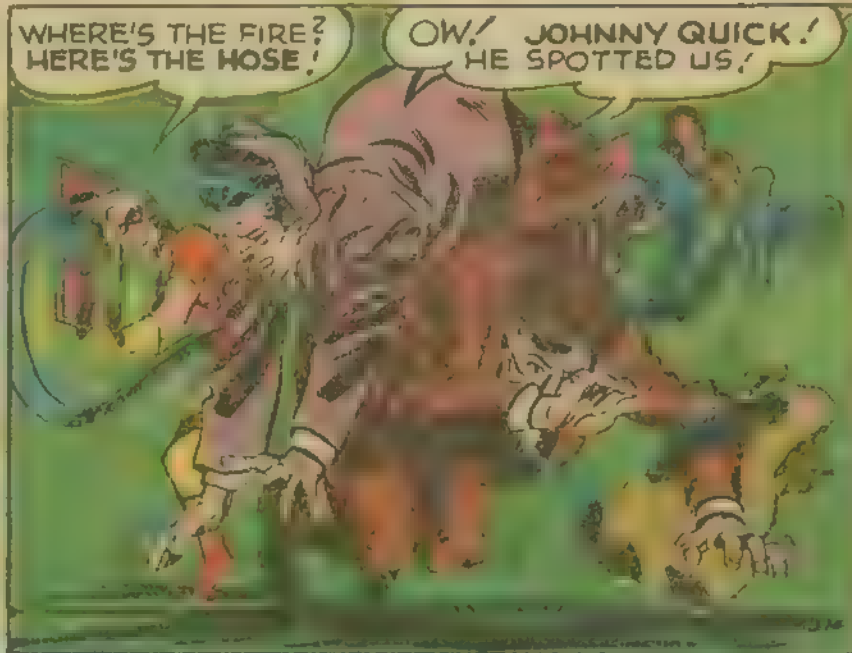
MEANWHILE, HIGH IN THE BUILDING, AS THE ROAR OF THE CANNON REVERBERATES THROUGHOUT...

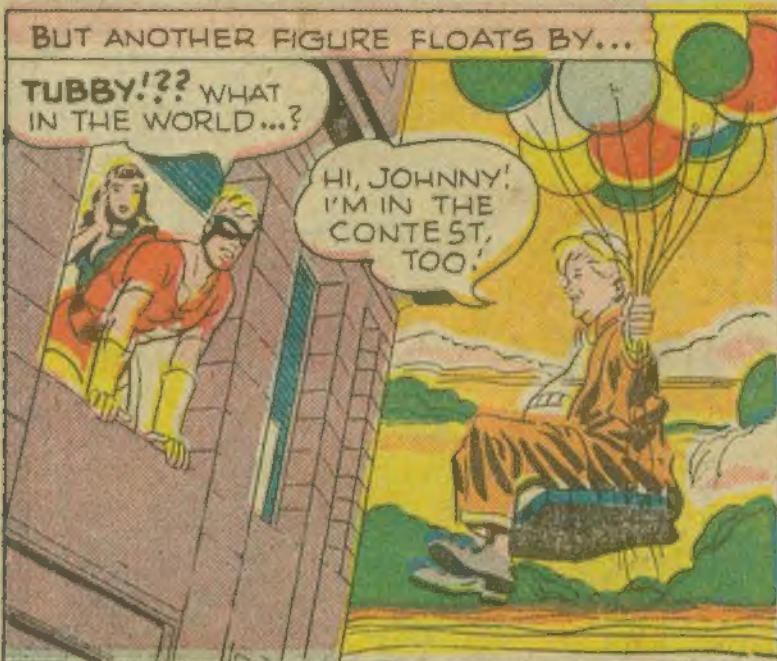
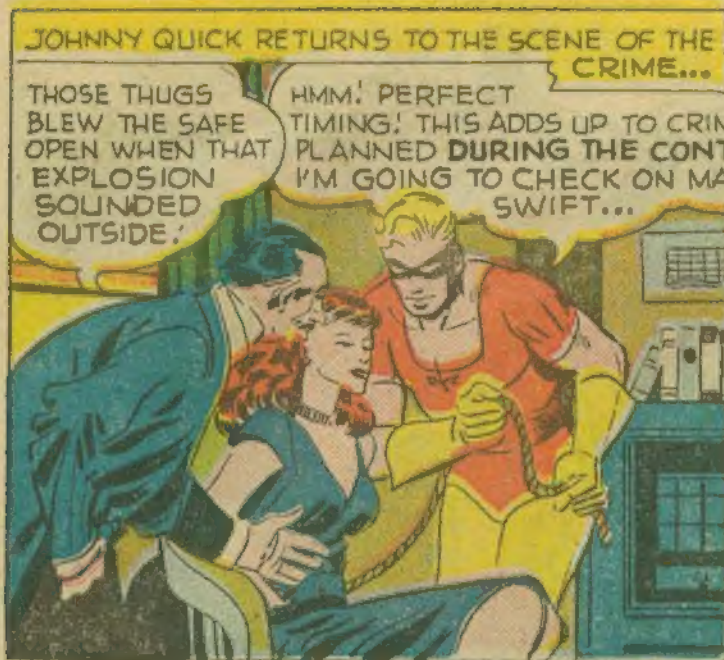


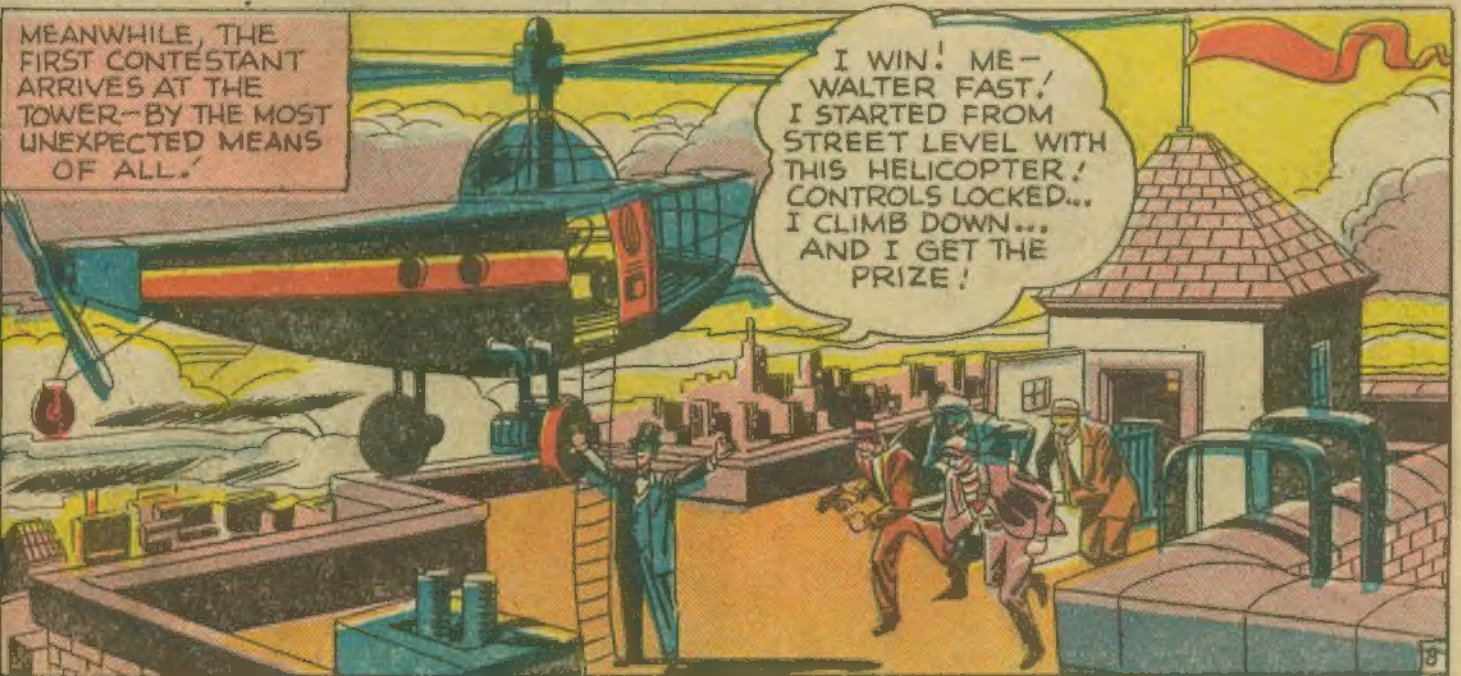
PRETTY CLEVER OF THE BOSS, TIMIN' IT THIS WAY. THE EXPLOSION OUTSIDE MUFFLES THE SOUND OF US BLOWIN' THE SAFE.

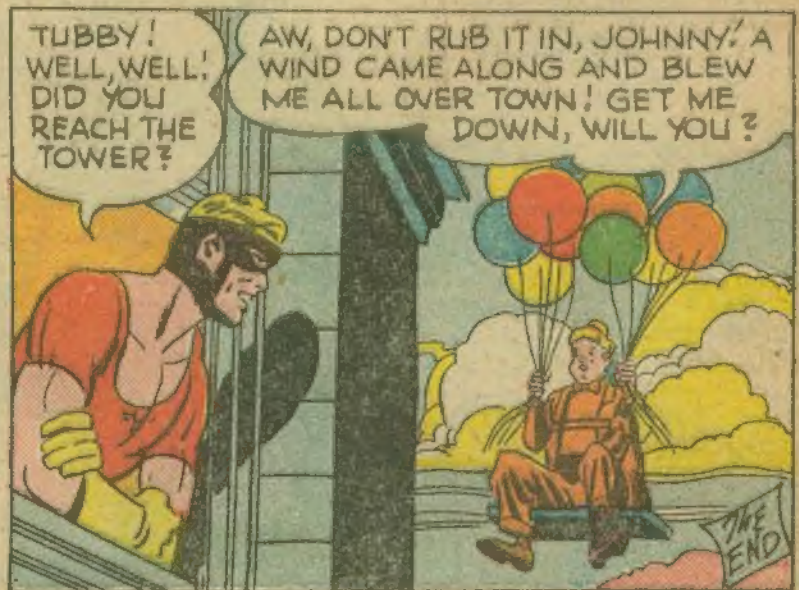
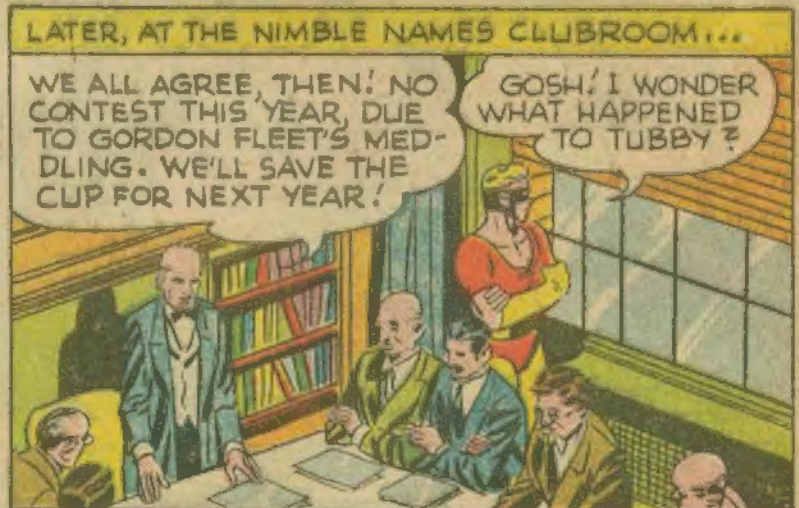
HE MUST BE MAD! I'D BETTER SAY MY MAGIC FORMULA AND RACE UP WHERE HE LANDS—

3x2(9Y2)
4A!











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